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ABSTRACT

Papers on public libraries presented at the 1986 International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA) conference include: (1) "Developing Children's Libraries in Shanghai" (Che Jiuzhi, China); (2) "The Development of Public Librarianship in China" (Cheng Fuchen, China); (3) "The Development of Public Libraries in Japan" (Mamoru Nogami, Japan); (4) "Charging for Public Library Services" (J. C. Beard, United Kingdom); (5) "Statistic Analysis as a Form of Management of Librarianship" (E. V. Eenmaa, USSR); (6) "Development of Public Libraries in Tokyo" (Takasi Itoh, Japan); (7) "Public Library Statistics in the United States--Current Practices and Trends" (Ernest A. DiMattia, Jr., United States); and (8) "The Dynamics of Growing Public Libraries in Taiwan Area" (Christina K. C. Chen, Taiwan, and Margaret C. Fung, United States). (KM)

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IFLA GENERAL CONFERENCE, TOKYO 1986

Division: Libraries serving the general public

Section: Public Libraries

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Developing Children Libraries
in Shanghai

by

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1. Introduction:

Before the establishment of the People's Republic of China, there were only four children's libraries in Shanghai, with 12 staff members, 46,000 volumes of books and an average of 600 readers a day. The private Shanghai Children's Library, which was the largest of the four, occupied only a house of about one hundred square metres. Its budget occasionally received from social donations, and by 1949, it could hardly keep on. After the liberation, this children's library was subsidized by the municipal government. In 1952, it was donated to the government and taken over by the Bureau of Culture of Shanghai.

Now, the Shanghai Children's Library is situated at down town in a garden-building, covering a total floor space of 1528 square metres, with a collection of over 770,000 volumes and 32 staff members. It is the largest children's library of the city run by the municipal government. The name of the library is inscribed by Song Qingling, former honorary chairman of the country.

After the establishment of new China, every district and county of Shanghai has set up children's libraries (or reading-rooms). Since 1980, the children's libraries have progressed far more rapidly at the government's energetic advocacy. In May 1981, a symposium on children's library work was held in Beijing by the Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Education and the Central Committee of the Communist Youth League. The symposium put forward a proposal "to conscientiously strengthen the cultivation and education of children and speed up the development of children's library". In December 1982, the Ministry of Culture held a meeting to commend national advanced children's libraries and advanced children's library staffs and to exchange experiences. Three children's library staffs of Shanghai (Ma Zhaoluo, Zhu Peiwen, Chen Guidi) and five children's libraries (Shanghai Children's Library, Children's Library of Yuyuan Neighbourhood, Children's Library of Weihai Neighbourhood, Fangualong Children's Library, and Children's Library of Putuo Neighbourhood) were commended as the advanced. In January 1983, the Bureau of Culture of Shanghai also held a commending meeting and 48 children's libraries (or reading-rooms) and 37 children's library staffs of Shanghai were commended. All this has greatly pushed forward the children's library work in Shanghai. In 1980, there were only 26 children's libraries (or reading-rooms) in the city. But by the end of 1985, there were 180 of them: one municipal children's library, 11 district ones, 9 county ones, 113 neighbourhood ones, and 46 village ones. Comparing to 1980, the year of 1985 registered an increase by 590%, and was 45 times as many as that before 1949.

Now, a three-level network system (municipal, district/county, neighbourhood/village) of the city's children's libraries (or reading-rooms) has been established. However, because of the space problem resulted from the large population, some children's libraries are quite simple and crude, without enough space and books and facilities. Most of them were residences before. These houses are all small, covering only 50 to 60 square metres and about one hundred square metres at most. They have usually several thousands to ten thousands of volumes. These small neighbourhood children's libraries spread all over the city, like being set up just at the doors of children's home. It's very convenient for children to borrow and read books. Therefore, they are welcomed by children and their parents.

According to the statistics of 1985, there are 180 children's libraries in Shanghai, with 424 staff members, 2,258,000 volumes of books. They received about 5,043,000 readers and a circulation of 15,650,000 volumes a year. There are 1,200,000 children in the city, every child is supposed to possess 1.88 volumes of books, 16,800 children come to libraries everyday, and every child in the city is supposed to borrow 13 books. This achievement owes a great deal to the support of the government at different levels and people from all walks of life as well as years of hardworking of staff members in children's libraries. But it still can not meet the growing needs of children readers.

2. Organization, budgets and functions:

Though some children's libraries in Shanghai are independent both in administration and business, most of them are the branches or reading-rooms of public libraries for adults. They are administered by adults' libraries but are independent in business. The children's libraries at the city and district/county levels are under the leadership of Bureaux of Culture at the same levels. Their budgets are supported by the governments. The children's libraries of neighbourhood and village are under their local governments in administration and receive the guidance from district and county Bureaux of Culture as well as district and county libraries. Part of the budgets comes from the neighbourhood or village enterprises. The rest is subsidized by the government.

At present, children's libraries at the levels of city and district/county are under a good service conditions. But those at neighbourhood and village levels lack staff, books and facilities. Most of them have only three to six staff members, some even one or two. But these staff members don't complain. They try every means to better serve children readers and they have made great achievements

Generally, the children's libraries in Shanghai serve pupils of 6 to 15 years old. But in answering to the requirements of parents, many children's libraries now have extended service to pre-school children, who are usually led by parents

or teachers of kindergartens to go to the library in the morning. Handicapped children and those who are careless about study and behaviours are given special considerations.

The duty and task of children's libraries are, in some aspects, even more important than adults' libraries because the children they serve are the future and hope of the country. The children library staff is to cultivate children to be a new generation with ideal, morality, civilization and discipline. This is the requirement put forward by the Bureau of Library Administration of the Ministry of Culture, P. R. C. at the national commending meeting held in December 1982. In recent years, according to this requirement, children's libraries in Shanghai at different levels carry out their work in the light of their own specific conditions.

3. How to serve children:

Children's libraries do not confine their work to the simple procedure of lending and returning books; instead, they ^{have} developed many ways to serve children readers

1) To promote the positional work in the library to guide children readers to read more and better books.

Almost all the children's libraries possess a lending desk and a reading-room. In a larger children's library, there are two reading-rooms, one is for the middle-school pupils, the other is for the primary. The Shanghai Municipal Children's Library also possesses a radio-studio room. Children can borrow books with their borrowing cards. In order to attract the children to read good books, many children's libraries have tried in many ways to introduce well-written books to the children, for instance, arranging extraordinary show window, compiling synopsis of newly-published books and holding book exhibitions. Some libraries introduce good books in the way of story-telling. For middle-school pupils, the libraries do this by means of making lectures on how to read books and write book reviews. Sometimes the libraries invite authors to analyse some of their books to older children.

Some children, when they first enter the libraries, seem rather rude and don't obey the library regulations. In this case, library staff always motherly guide them to sing "Civic Virtues" song, organize them to watch "Civic Virtues" slide show, make them read "Civic Virtues" books. Being taught in this way, more naughty children become not only backbone readers of the libraries, but also well-behaved pupils in schools.

Quite many children's libraries have established the record-system of children readers, which records the books they have borrowed. From these records, can we

find out the trend of their reading so as to give individual guidance to some children punctually.

2) To serve the children outside the library.

Since most of children's libraries are so small that they can not receive more children readers, they go out to neighbourhoods, schools and parks to hold temporary travelling libraries or book stands. For example, the Children's library of Yuyuan Neighbourhood held seven such libraries during the summer vacation in 1985, receiving about 13,200 children readers and lending out 39,600 volumes of books. In hot days, they held "cool-air-enjoying" travelling book stands in the open air, which attracted lots of children readers together with their parents. Sometimes, there was also slide show. "The children's library serves children directly at their home", so praised the residents.

The rural area of Shanghai is very extensive. Children living in the countryside can not go a long way to the village or town children's libraries. So the children's libraries send books to remote places, some by travelling library on wheels, some by book cases if they have no car. In Zhuqiao Town, Nanhui County, the town children's library have made 340 book cases, each contains 70 volumes of picture-story books and children books and 20 issues of magazines, which are regularly sent to the primary schools situated in the out-of-the-way suburbs.

Lots of children's libraries also take special considerations for handicapped children, pupils careless about study and behaviours and pupils of "Work and Study Schools" (which are run for pupils whose deeds are not curable in ordinary schools). The children's libraries have organized some "warmth-sending groups" and "concern-showing groups" from their backbone readers to send books to them as "spiritual treatment". Through these activities, many handicapped children cheered up from their suffering; pupils careless about study and behaviours got inspired and some of them were able to enter the key middle schools; those in "Work and Study Schools" graduated ahead of time.

3) To arrange interesting activities for promoting children intelligence and health.

To meet the demand of the children's wide interests, liveliness and curiosity, the children's libraries (or reading-rooms) in Shanghai have organized different kinds of interesting activities, among which are mainly story telling sessions, poetry reading parties, composition contests, intelligence tests, knowledge competitions, book-reading guesses, get-togethers of the children readers with the writers, etc., to guide the children to read more books and to get better consequences from the reading. By doing this, the libraries have successfully combined dull reading with

interesting activities. Some of the activities are organized by only one library, some are arranged by several libraries and some are unified action by all the children's libraries in a district or county supported by their district/county Bureau of Culture or Bureau of Education or the local Xinghua bookstore. The reading activity named "Red Scarf" all over the country has been put forward by the Central Committee of the National Youth League in recent years. In response to that, such activity, sponsored by the Shanghai Youth League, has been brought in by the Shanghai Municipal Children's Library as well as district/county children's libraries. The method of unified recommendation of good children books, of unified contests of story-telling and of unified solicitation to article on book-reading, has brought potentialities of each library into full play, thus strengthening their mutual relation and coordination with good results.

To integrate book learning with understanding the reality of society, quite a number of children's libraries took society as a large library and organized children readers to participate in such activities as visiting and surveying factories, villages, printing houses, newspaper offices, zoos, popular science centres, historic sites, etc., thus not only getting a deeper understanding of the book knowledge they've read, but broadening their outlook, moulding their temperament, understanding life and loving life.

In recent years, efforts have been made by some of the children's libraries to develop children readers' ability of using and managing the library themselves. For example, children readers are encouraged to look after library books, compile "Reader's Garden Plot", hold oration parties, run the "Abstracts of Children's Newspaper", etc. Thus, the guidance of the children by children's libraries change from simple inculcating method to enlightening the children to rely on themselves.

4) To run training classes to cooperate with school teaching to make children get more knowledge in culture and in science and technology.

In order to satisfy the children's thirst for knowledge and their different interests and to cooperate with school teaching, many children's libraries have held a number of training classes on elementary knowledge of science and culture such as literature, drawing and calligraphy, computer, English, child intelligence exploitation, electronic organ, accordion, etc. They invited teachers concerned to give lessons which were warmly welcomed by the children and their parents. Many children's intelligence and wisdom has been brought into full play. For example, there were nearly two hundred pupils (from fourth grade of primary school to second grade of middle school) in a computer training class run by the Children's Library of Changning District. A fourth grade primary school

pupil among them won the first prize in Shanghai teen-ager computer contest. The work of penmanship written by a girl of ten who learned at the calligraphy training class run by the Fangualong Children's Library was recommended to display in the Sino-Japan children's calligraphy interchange activity held in Osaka, Japan. Through these training, there emerged a number of "child painters", "child calligraphers", "child poets" and "child scientists". The children's libraries were thought highly of by the society, as they could really help the children with their school teaching.

4. Conclusions:

Although achievements have been made, the children's library service in Shanghai still can not meet the needs of reading of more than one million children. There is still some gaps to compare with high developed cities in the world. First, the library buildings and installation are old-fashioned. There are no sufficient video-audio equipments. Secondly, the staff members are badly in need of strengthening and training for most of them came from other occupations. They are in high spirit, but not professional. Today, there isn't a special course on children's library in a library science department at universities in our country yet, although a professional training course has been run for children's library staffs by the Department of the Library Science of the East-China Normal University, which was entrusted by the Bureau of Library Administration of the Ministry of Culture, P. R. C. Thirdly, the work of urban children's libraries in Shanghai is going on smoothly for they have better condition with some trained staff members. As for the suburban children's libraries, they still have some difficulties in their work.

We'd not rest content with the achievements we have gained but emulate the advanced experiences of the children's libraries of other countries in the world to make our children's library service forge ahead.

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The Development of Public Librarianship
in China

by

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THE DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC LIBRARIANSHIP IN CHINA

This is the first year of the Seventh Five-Year Plan of national economy and social development of our country. The whole nation is, with immense enthusiasm, striving to build China into a strong, modernized socialist country at an early date. In this great cause, as a significant component of the national scientific, cultural and educational undertaking, public librarianship takes on the glorious mission of serving the goal of achieving a solid material foundation and a high level of socialist culture and ethics, and plays a more and more important part in improving the scientific and cultural level of the masses and in promoting economic development and scientific research. This paper gives a brief introduction to the recent development of public librarianship in China.

The public librarianship in our country grew out of a very weak basis. Before the establishment of the People's Republic of China, there were only 55 public libraries. After 37 years expansion and development, great progress has been achieved. Up to the end of 1985, there had been 2,344 public libraries above county level, including one national library, 35 provincial libraries, 303 district or municipal libraries and 2,005 county libraries, with the collections totaling 255.728 million volumes, 29,350 staff members and floor space of 1.72 million square metres.

As cultural and scientific institutions in society, the expansion and development of libraries in various types are closely bound up with that of the social basis as a whole. The development of librarianship in China is protected by the constitution of our country, which stipulates that the librarianship serving the people and socialist construction should be developed.

All public libraries above county level are funded by the government. The development of libraries are listed in the plan for national economy and social development. In addition, the government also issues documents to guide and promote the development of the libraries. For instance, the government has laid down the rule on depositary copies of home publications, according to which the sample copies of all domestic publications should be sent to the National Library and the sample copies of provincial publications should be sent to provincial libraries. All of these are the reliable guarantee of constant development of public librarianship in China.

It goes without saying that the development of library service is restrained by social politics and economy and develops along with social economy and culture. Therefore, it must adapt itself to the levels of development in national economy, science, culture and education.

During the decade-long "Cultural Revolution", not only the national economy was put near the edge of collapse, librarianship suffered great setbacks as well. In December 1978, the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party held the third Plenary Session of the Party's 11th Central Committee, on which a strategical decision was made that the nation's priority should be reset on the construction of socialist modernization; which is a significant turning point in contemporary history of China. With a series of reform measures taken shortly after the decision, the economic construction began to develop by leaps and bounds. At the same time, scientific researchers and the broad masses of the people have put forward more demanding requirements to the libraries, but both in quality and quantity, the state of librarianship in our country is far from adequate in meeting these requirements.

For the purpose of changing the backward situation, it is imperative

that the over-all planning and administration of the librarianship in our country should be greatly strengthened. In May 1980, the Secretariate of the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party listened to and approved "the Outline of Report on Library Work". The Bureau of Library Administration under the Ministry of Culture was set up accordingly, whose main task is to administrate all the public libraries in China besides carrying out coordination and cooperation among different library systems, planning education, scientific research and international activities of libraries as a whole. During the Sixth Five-Year Plan of national economy and social development (1981-1985), the development of the public librarianship obtained great achievements.

In 1980, the year before the Sixth Five-Year Plan, in the vast rural areas where the people account for 87 percent of the total national population, a considerable number of counties did not have any or separate library. With the in-depth development of the rural economic system reform, the peasants' enthusiasm for production has risen to an unprecedented height. They realized the importance of scientific knowledge and became anxious to learn it. The peasants who became abundant earlier than others are no longer satisfied only with material gains but in great need of richer spiritual and cultural life. The rural industry, which has developed very rapidly in recent years, also needs better and quicker information service. As a result, meeting the needs of the readers in the rural areas has become an urgent problem to be settled in the development of public libraries. For this reason a target was set in the Sixth Five-Year Plan to develop county libraries, and most of the counties should have their own libraries. Although our policy is that local construction should be financed by local governments, the central government allotted in 1984 and 1985 special funds to 22 provinces and autonomous

regions. This gave a vigorous impetus to the rapid development of county libraries. By the end of 1985, about 83 percent of counties had established libraries; thus, the objective set in the Sixth Five-Year Plan has basically been achieved. Below the county level, including urban neighbourhoods and rural towns, 50,000 cultural stations or cultural centres had been set up by the end of 1985. With more convenience for readers to access, these reading facilities especially played an important part in catering for the masses' needs and improving their scientific and cultural level.

Children account for about 30 percent of the total population in China. Their education is of vital importance to the future of our country. As "a second classroom" and an important educational institute in society, children's libraries perform a significant function in widening children's knowledge, moulding their temperament and facilitating their healthy growth. In order to bring about a great advance in children's library service, the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Education and the Central Committee of the Communist Youth League jointly convened "the National Symposium of Children's Library Work", which called for the acceleration of the children's library service and suggested that all the cities of medium size and above should gradually set up purpose-designed children libraries. When designing a library, special consideration should be given to children's reading facilities. This symposium greatly promoted the development of children's libraries. In 1981, there were only 15 children's libraries and 70 or 80 reading rooms. By the end of 1985 they had increased to 81 and 1089 respectively. Children's reading facilities in urban neighbourhoods and rural areas have also developed at a great pace.

China is a multinational country with 56 minorities. Generally speaking, in areas inhabited by the minorities, the economy and culture are relatively

backward. Because of this they are lack of libraries. In 1983, 50 percent of the 578 autonomous counties of the minority nationalities did not have any library, which is far below the average national level. In 1983, the Ministry of Culture and State Nationalities Affairs Commission jointly convened "the First National Conference on Library Work in Minority Areas", at which the suggestion was put forward to enhance and improve the library service in these areas. In order to support and improve the library service there, several big cities and provinces where library service are relatively developed donated books to the regions where minority groups are centred. Training qualified library staff for the minorities is another measure taken to help them with their library service. In 1985, the Bureau of Library Administration under the Ministry of Culture entrusted the Department of Library Science of Beijing Normal University with the task of running a special training class for the library staff in minority areas. A total of 51 students from 17 national minorities were enrolled. Thanks to the concern and support of the authorities at different levels the librarianship in the national minority areas have made great progress. By the end of 1985 the number of public libraries above county level in these areas had increased as many as 469.

In the past years, the amount of information in the world has sharply increased; therefore, it has influenced the building of library collection in China. During the Sixth Five-Year Plan, the collection of public libraries above county level increased by 25 percent, which worsened the shortage of stack space. In order to solve this problem, our government increased the investment in the capital construction of libraries above county level. During the Sixth Five-Year Plan, the operating expenses registered an average annual increase of 28 percent. More than 20 provincial libraries were either

expanded or constructed new buildings. So were many municipal and county libraries. Besides, it is particularly worth mentioning that the project of new national library building approved by the late Premier Zhou Enlai formally began construction in 1983. Scheduled to be completed by June 1987, the 140,000-square-meter library will be our first modernized library with advanced facilities. It will definitely play an important role in the promotion of librarianship in our country.

Compared with developed countries, we still have a long way to go in the field of applying modern scientific technology in library service. It is doubtless that automation is the common trend in the development of all types of libraries. During the Sixth Five-Year Plan, some public libraries in our country first imported computers. Since 1980 the National Library has imported LCMARC, with which the library is providing access service for both itself and other users, and assisted its staff with the cataloguing and purchasing of books in western languages. In addition, they also set up the retrieval service system of ISDS tapes and are compiling a dictionary of Chinese character attribution. The new library will be equipped with advanced computer facilities when completed. By the end of the century their goal is to become the national centre of Chinese bibliographic data and one of the centres of local online network in share-cataloguing of books in foreign languages.

Micro-computers have been introduced to provincial and city libraries in Guangdong, Fujian, Shaanxi, Liaoning, Tianjin, Shenzhen, etc. They have started experimenting with or using the computers in administrative and periodical management, etc.

In addition to the computers imported by the libraries, the central government invested in microfilm camera, developing machines and reading

apparatus, with which 15 large libraries were fitted out. To plan and organize in a unified way micrographic reproduction of library holdings, the China National Microfilming Centre for Library Resource was set up in 1985. It gives its first priority to the valuable newspapers published before liberation, rare books and ancient records.

To make librarianship suited to the development of national economy, science, culture and education, it is necessary to plan library service according to the practical needs and conditions, but what is more important is to bring into full play the functions of libraries. As a form of organization for the society to utilize books, the value of the existence of library, in the final analysis, lies in meeting the requirements of social, economic and cultural development for documentary information.

The public libraries in China serve both the general public and the scientific researchers. They play an important role in developing our national economy, science, culture and education, so as to raise the educational level of the whole nation. In recent years, we have not only enlarged the scale of public librarianship but also improved the service. In order to fully utilize the literature resources serving the modernization drive, the libraries extended the opening hours, issued additional library cards, and made an increasing number of books available on open access. Furthermore, we provide the public with all kinds of active service to extend the influence of the libraries in the society. As a result, the libraries at different levels have attracted more readers.

Book publicity and reading guidance are the major steps we take to increase the utilization ratio of the library collections, bring into full play its functions of educating the public and transmitting documentary in-

formation. The most commonly used methods include bulletins of new acquisitions, book exhibitions, lectures and other activities of book reading and review. Some libraries provide the aged and the handicapped with home delivery services through the regular visit of mobile library or the mail. Many libraries often recommend good books to the students at reformatories and correctional institutions. Children's libraries not only provide good service inside the libraries but also send books to villages and schools. They organize for children activities that help their healthy development in all aspects. For instance, slides shows, story telling groups, general science education lectures and reading guidance have all played positive roles in fostering a generation with noble ideals, ethics, and disciplines.

In recent years, the enquiries and reference services of the Chinese public libraries have been greatly improved. Many libraries have enlarged their collection and increased the number of qualified librarian for the enquires and reference section. Some libraries organized training courses on information retrieval for researchers so that they are able to locate the materials they need quickly and directly by themselves. Some libraries established translation network to translate materials in foreign languages for readers who do not understand foreign languages. Many libraries also enthusiastically compile special bibliographies and issue bulletins of information to meet the demands of scientific researchers and production units. Besides this, they offer consultative services as well. Experts in different fields are invited to come and answer whatever questions the readers asked. The staff in some large libraries are sent to research institutions, factories etc. to find out the information needs of the users and then provide SDI services, because of which, quite a number of projects avoided many mistakes, reduced the cost and were completed ahead of schedule. Consequently

considerable economic benefit were achieved. The SDI service can also be found in some small libraries which have not enough scientific and technical materials but with the help of the inter-library loan system, they are able to supply the local factories and farmers with the information they need, and thus, assist them considerably in solving their problems in production.

As is known to all, with the sharp increase of information it is becoming more and more difficult to meet the varied needs of readers depending on the collection of a single library alone. To develop resource-sharing through inter-library co-operation has become inevitable. The public libraries in China are administrated nationally under the auspices of the Ministry of Culture of the People's Republic of China and locally under the cultural departments of local governments. To some extent, this is a favorable organizational factor in developing inter-library co-operation within the public library system. Even though there is no direct affiliation among the libraries at levels of province, district or city and county, there is considerable professional contact. The library at higher level is responsible for giving professional guidance to the library below it and among all the public libraries there is a close relation for interlending. Therefore, a national network of public library service is formed, which enables all the public libraries to operate as an organic whole.

Furthermore, the public libraries also work in co-operation with other kinds of libraries. So far, 15 Central Library Committee or Co-operative Committees at provincial level have been set up. Some adjacent provinces have also set up inter-provincial co-operative groups. The public libraries act as a centre within these organizations doing co-operative acquisition of books and periodicals in foreign languages, thus reducing the number of

duplication and gaps, increasing the number of items in acquisition. As a result, they saved the government expenditure of foreign currency. The organization also compiles union catalogues of new books or periodicals in foreign languages and special catalogues on different subjects, set up catalogue searching centre of new accessions in foreign languages, develop resource-sharing by implimenting inter-library loan, thereby raise the utilization ratio of library collection.

Training qualified librarian is a key factor in improving the library service. With the progress in national economy and librarianship, our regular education on library science is developing at unprecedented speed. Years ago, only two universities, Beijing University and Wuhan University, had library science departments. In 1985, however, the number has reached 38 with 3,912 library science majors in school. We have also set up 9 vocational schools of library science, totaling 892 students in schools.

Alongside the regular education, in-service training has been developing as well. There are now 20 sparetime library schools with a teaching capacity of over 5,000. Some large universities offer correspondence education in library science. They also organize lectures during the period of vacations. Last September, the Ministry of Culture, in collaboration with the State Educational Commission and other institutions, sponsered the library science program in the Broadcasting and TV University with an enrollment of 20,000 students. The China Society of Library Science, its branches and the Central Library Committees in different areas also organized timely lectures on special subjects and short-term training courses. Besides these similar measures, some large libraries have taken other steps to improve the professional level of their staff, asking universities to train their

staff or send them abroad for further education or investigation. The Bureau of Library Administration also takes the similar measures mentioned above and contributes a great deal in the staff education of public library. Most of staff take a very active attitude towards improving their professional level. This has provided a solid foundation for the growth of a large number of qualified library workers. The personnel structure of the public libraries has changed considerably for the better in past few years. However, there still remains much to be done in meeting the needs of the rapid development of library undertakings and to keep up with the development of the national economy and culture.

China is a developing country. There is still a considerable gap between our librarianship and that of developed countries. Despite of our progress in the past years on a relatively weak basis, we still can not satisfy all the needs of the users for books. However, looking forward, we are filled with confidence. It has been determined that the guiding principle is to build our country into a modern, highly civilized and democratic socialist country with its own characteristics. Serving this principle is the major task of the public libraries in China. In the process of doing so, the public librarianship itself will be developing continuously.

During the Seventh Five-Year Plan of national economy and social development (1986-1990), the scale of the public librarianship of our country will be further extended. The new national library, which will be completed and made available to the users in a brand-new appearance by 1987, will gradually become the centre of national librarianship in bibliographic compiling, union-cataloguing, inter-library loan, library cooperation, scientific and technical research on library, professional exchange, etc. City and county

libraries will be set up in a planned way in the places where they are not yet in existence. It is expected that most of the provincial libraries and city libraries where the cities are economically under the direct control of central government will have their new library buildings. The number of the public library service points in big cities and along the east coast will continue to increase. In the sparsely populated vast north-west China, the service forms of mobile libraries and branch libraries will be widely adopted in addition to setting up a library in each county. More and more provincial libraries and major city libraries will be equipped with micrographic facilities. All the public libraries will enlarge their collections of audiovisual material and other new types of information media and make better use of them. Micro-computers will be applied in more libraries as well.

In order to strengthen the cooperative activities among different library systems, the overall planning and all-round arrangement of our librarianship, we are actively working on the establishment of a national library coordinating organization, which will be responsible for overall planning of rational distribution of literature resource in our country and gradually setting up a guarantee system at national level, developing specialized, local or even national network of computers step by step, organizing bibliographic information and bringing about resource sharing nationwide.

Our final objective is to build up a modernized library network with all types of libraries, rationally distributed service points, rich collections, advanced facilities and easy accessibilities to cater to a full extent for the increasing needs of national economic construction, scientific research and improving people's cultural level by the end of this century. We firmly believe that this objective can surely be attained.

We sincerely hope that friendly relations with libraries in other coun-

tries will be further strengthened. In recent years, we have sent library delegations to 33 countries in the five continents and received friends in library field from 16 countries, which greatly promoted the mutual understanding and friendship between us. We hope the interchange of this kind will be enhanced, welcome larger scale co-operation and literature resource sharing with more libraries in the world, thus contributing to the cause of safeguarding the world peace.

13 (13)

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The Development of
Public Libraries in Japan

by

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Dear world public librarians,

I am very glad to have the chance of being heard on the subject of Japanese public libraries development. I shall speak on three sub-themes. First-on Japanese words concerning public libraries, second-on the history, third-on the present situation.

(1) Japanese words concerning public libraries

Please become familiar with our word 'toshokan' which is rather similar to 'library'. But there is a difference between them. 'Library' has many meanings, for instance, 'the place where books are kept for use', 'such an institution for common use', 'a collection of books', 'a series of books' etc. So it is a rather popular word, I suppose. Our toshokan consists of two words, both having chinese origines. Tosho¹⁾ means book(s), and kan¹⁾ means building(s). In Japan, publicly established libraries appeared after the Meiji Restoration (1867), and the word toshokan also appeared at that time and meant only 'such an institution for common use'.

Therefore, toshokan has been a rather solemn, hard word for Japanese to accept. But as Japanese libraries, especially public libraries has been doing actively for the past 20 years, the word toshokan has become rather popular. For instance, we find a Japanese series publication named 'Kodomo Toshokan'²⁾ meaning 'Children's Library'.

Well, I and other Japanese librarians have felt the word 'public library' to be ambiguous, as it may be a publicly opened and serving library (broader meaning), and may be a municipally established and serving library (narrower meaning).

We have two Japanese words, kōkyō toshokan for the former, kōritsu toshokan for the latter, the former one having been more widely used. (Kō is 'public', kyō is 'common', and ritsu is 'to establish'.) A Japanese library science professor preferred to use the latter word,³⁾ and it has prevailed. I agree with him and think kōritsu toshokan the substance of kōkyō toshokan. Unesco divides public libraries into two kinds. Public libraries (a) correspond to the latter, and public libraries (b), privately supported ones, correspond to the former minus the latter.⁴⁾

At the end of the first theme, I must touch on one of the characteristics of Japanese kōritsu toshokan.

It may sound curious, but we Japanese have two kinds of kōritsu toshokan. We have two levels of local public bodies. The basic ones are shi (city, 651), ku (ward in Tōkyō-to, 23), chō or machi (town, 1999) and son or mura (village, 604) (1985). They may be called 'municipalities'. The more spacious ones are to (Tōkyō whole area), dō (only Hokkaidō), fu (Ōsaka and Kyōto, both including same names cities) and ken (43). They are translated as 'prefectures'. Our municipal libraries are 557 cities (established rate 87%), 23 wards (100%), 380 towns (19%), 33 villages (5%),⁵⁾ while all prefectures have their libraries. The prefectural libraries were established rather earlier and had been felt by the Japanese people including public librarians to be more valuable.

In a 1963 Report which I'll explain later, municipal libraries were recognized as representative public libraries. (While making the Report, one participant, a famous prefectural librarian cried, 'Scales fell from my eyes.'⁶⁾, of course in

Japanese. I would say that was a Copernican Revolution.)

We have said Shi-chō-son-ritsu toshokan and fu-ken-ritsu toshokan. But we have now more functional words, dai-i-ssen (the 1st line) toshokan for the former, and dai-ni-sen (the 2nd line) toshokan for the latter.⁷⁾ 'The 1st' means the 1st in geography and also the 1st in connection with people's lives, I think.⁸⁾ The 2nd line libraries should have the task of encouraging municipal libraries and also becoming the centers of the library cooperations in the prefectures.

We have approached the concepts by which we can understand our public library situations. But the problem remains. There are two kinds of public library activities, but the developed countries in the public library services have chiefly municipal libraries throughout the country. We can now see Japanese public libraries in the order of (1) municipal libraries and (2) prefectural libraries, and we can understand municipal libraries well. We are working to prevail the recognition of library systems (branches, book mobiles), and researching how to establish more town library systems and village library systems. Also, we must understand prefectural libraries and the whole structure of our library world.

(2) History

In the 8th century, a library named Un-tei (Fragrant Grass Pavilion) was publicly opened.⁹⁾ This was among a few cases of public libraries (b) in our history till the end of the 17th century. After the 18th century we had more of these, but we had neither a national library, nor public libraries (a), nor public

subscription libraries before the Meiji Restoration (1867).

In our modern times, Japanese libraries compared with American libraries were as follows.

First Year	Japan	U.S.A.
national library	1872	1800
prefectural libraries	1876, 1898 (the 2nd wave)	
municipal libraries	1880, 1903 (")	1833 (Peterborough)
newspaper reading premises	1872	
public library law	1899 (not substantial)	1849 (N. H.)
library association	1892	1876

In 1877, TANAKA Fujimaro (1845-1903), the Vice Minister of Education, published in the Education Ministry Yearbook an article named 'On the importance of Establishing public libraries by local public bodies'. He wrote, 'Many people cannot go to or graduate from schools. So I heartily hope that local public bodies will establish public libraries. Buildings may be rented and books must fit tastes of the people'. (Abridged translation)

About half of the prefectures established libraries, but they were closed after about 10 years, except in Miyagi Prefecture. Municipal libraries did not appear in that time except in Hachinohe town and neighbouring areas. After that, the Minister of Education or the Minister of the Interior encouraged local public bodies to establish public libraries for nationalistic reasons. The public libraries (a), (b) increased, but only in numbers. The tendency is shown in the attached graph.¹⁰⁾

After the end of World War II, many small public libraries were changed to the Citizens' public halls. Laws were made as

follows. 1947: Constitution, Fundamental Law of Education. 1949: Social Education Law. 1950: (Public) Library Law. 1953: School Library Law. But even the American Mission of Education and Library Law and Japanese public librarians' endeavours did not succeed to refresh our public libraries. In 1960, the Japan Library Association thought of encouraging municipal libraries and started a research team. In 1963, a report named 'Operations of public libraries in mid-small (chū-shō) sized cities' (Chū-shō Report) was published. It changed the common idea about public libraries in those days.

In 1965, Hino City Public Library was established and operated under the guidelines of the 1963 Report, as Mr. Itō will speak in detail. Since then, public libraries of Tama Area have been the forerunners. Our progress is as attached.¹¹⁾ But, still our status is not high in the world as I will mention in next chapter.

(3) Present situation
(Library Law)

It should have been named 'Public Library Law'. It was promulgated in 1950, and has been amended a little since then. It consists of three chapters: 1. General Provision (Article 1-9), 2. Kōritsu toshokan (Article 10-23). 3. Watakushiritsu toshokan (Public libraries (b), Article 24-29). Article 3 provides for library services minutely, and Article 4-6 provide for professional librarians (I'll explain later). But the core is in Chapter 2. Article 17 provides for free admission. Article 20 provides for subsidies from the national government for which

standards are given in Article 19, and also the chief librarians of the subsidized libraries are stipulated to be professional librarians. Article 18 says that the Minister of Education shall formulate desirable standards for the establishment and operation of public libraries. But it has not done so yet. Article 14 provides for library councils which respond to the chief librarian's inquiries and can express their opinions to chief librarians. Article 8 provides that the boards of education of prefectures may invite the boards of education of cities etc. to cooperate in promoting library services.

(Administration system)

Article 1 says this law is in accordance with the spirit of the Social Education Law. Then public libraries are administered by the boards of education of each local public body, and have some relations with the Ministry of Education. We have neither a Library Board nor a Ministry of Culture. So the status of chief librarians may become lower.

(Standards)

The desirable standards of public libraries in Article 18 were preliminarily made (1972). They were not so high in the floor space or the book circulation, but were thought high in staff numbers.¹²⁾ So it was not statutory yet.

(Kōminkan, Citizens' public hall)

As I said earlier, we have many Kōminkans doing public library services as one of their activities. Such services should be freshened by establishing public libraries. But some local public bodies are inclined to continue such services, or are even apt to trust them to private bodies. Kōminkan has more

finance than public libraries.¹³⁾

(Library use)

Most Japanese public librarians think the circulation per capita is the best indicator of municipal library use. Our circulation per capita 1.82 volumes¹⁴⁾ is 77% of the world (72 countries) average (2.35 volumes, around 1980) calculated from "Unesco Statistical Yearbook 1984". Our registered borrowers are 10.9% of the population. It is nearly equal of world (64 countries) average (10.2%). Ours are not high. This may be the same in other areas, for instance, reference works, cultural activities, audio visual services, out reach services, and even children's services. As our progress has been made recently, there are great differences between parts of our country.¹⁵⁾

(Education of professional librarians)

According to Library Law, professional librarians are required to graduate from universities (colleges) and complete a library studies course there, or complete a training course after graduation, or complete it after being employed 3 years as assistant librarians. The above mentioned course needs more than 330 hours. Now we have the University of Library and Information Science, and schools of Library and Information Science in some universities.

(Library Association)

The Japan Library Association may be the 3rd oldest in the world. It has about 5,500 personal members and about 2,000 institutional members, among which public libraries weigh pretty heavily.¹⁶⁾

(Library Plan)

We don't have any clear national plan of libraries. But, many cities, prefectures and local library associations have plans to develop public libraries. I hope the plans will progress and expand.

I limit to cite the references.

- 1) tosho 図書 kan 館
- 2) It is published by Dainippon Tosho Co. Ltd. and involves 60 children's fictions. We have several series in which titles the word toshokan is included.
- 3) MORI Kōichi "Kōritsu Toshokan Genron (principles)" Zenkoku Gakkō-toshokan Kyōgikai. 1983. p.18-35.
- 4) Uneso Recommendation concerning the International Standardization of Library Statistics (1970)
'Public (or popular) libra_ries: A distinction should be made between:
(a) Public libraries proper, i.e. those libraries receiving financial support in whole or in large part from the public authorities. (municipal or regional libraries)
(b) Libraries financed from private sources'
(a) + (b) = broader meaning, (a) = narrower meaning
- 5) Calculated from Japan Library Association. "Nihon no toshokan 1985"***

	Administrative Units	Service (including Points book mobiles)
Cities	565	1,345 (382)
Wards	23	163 (13)
Towns*	380	484 (93)
Villages	33	36 (3)
Total	1,001	2,028 (491)

* including 2 ^{union} ~~associated~~ regional libraries. Service points of prefectural libraries are 71, and privately supported

public libraries are 32.

The book (**) is made up as of March 31, 1985. Other data of Japanese public libraries in this report mainly depend on this book.

- 6) The New Testament. Acts 9 (18). (Though this saying is familiar to Japanese, I didn't know the source. Mr. TAKAGI Takio and Mr. NAKAGAWA Yasuhiro of Kyōto Prefectural Library found it for me.)
- 7) These ideas originate in URATA Takeo. 'Toshokan' in "Sekai Dai-hyakkajiten (World Encyclopedia)" Heibon-sha. V.21. 1958. p.292.
- 8) My scope of library users' objectives and libraries corresponding to them is as follows.

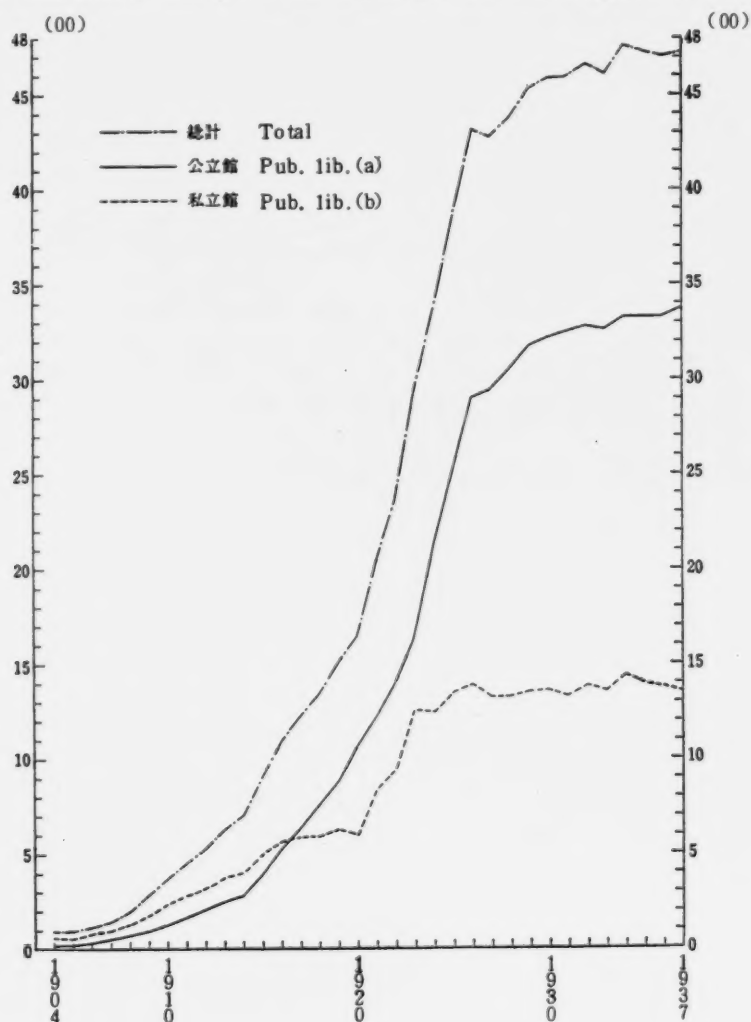
		Children Juvenile		Adult		
				Basic	Middle	High
Culture & Recreation		○	○	○		—
Study	scholarly	○	○	○	○	○
	practically			○	○	Δ
Reference	scholarly	○	○	○	○	○
	Practically			○	○	Δ
		the 1st line lib.		the 2nd line lib.	the special lib.	

- 9) We had six stages of our official history from the 8th to the 10th century. In the second one "Shoku-Nihongi", this was written.

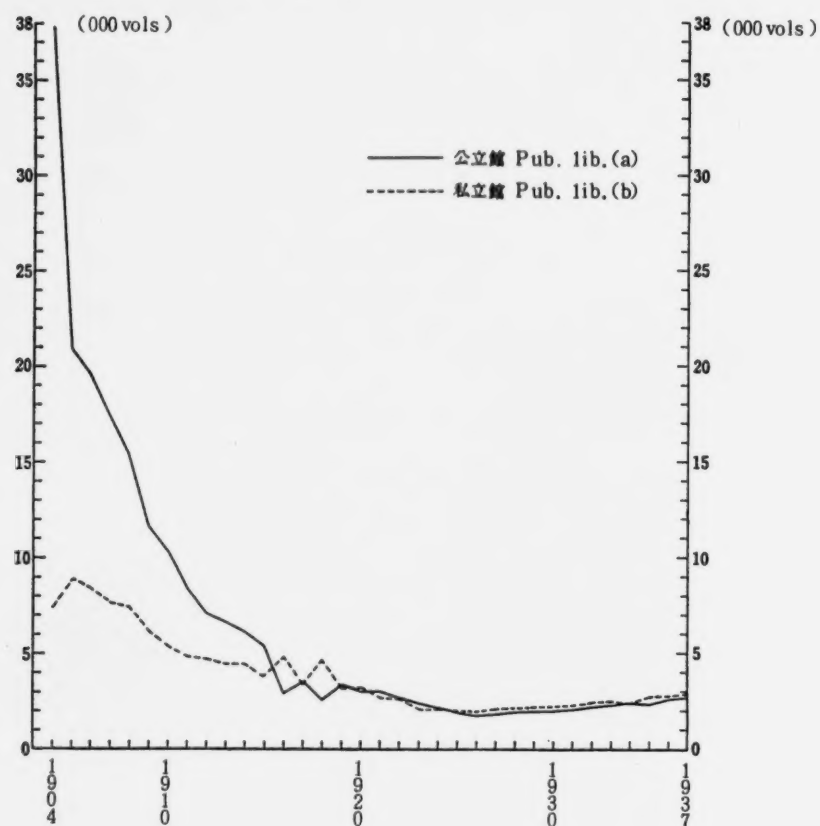
'He [ISONOKAMI Yakatsugu, 729-781] changed his dwelling to a buddhist temple. In that temple, he built a pavilion for non-buddhist books and named it Un-tei. When lovers of learning came and asked to read, he was willingly to let them read'. (Abridged translation)

Welch, T.F. "Toshokan" Clive Bingley, 1977 p. 15. I owe this book on many topics.

10) The numbers of public libraries in Japan (1904-37)



Books per public library in Japan (1904-1937)



11) Circulation per capita

Year	Population (000)	Circulation (000)	Per capita (Whole country)	Per capita (Area served by mu. 1.)
1965	c. 98,275	8,757	c. 0.09	0.13
1970	104,536	19,823	0.19	0.25
1975	110,990	69,135	0.62	0.86
1980	116,193	128,898	1.11	1.45
1985	119,316	217,337	1.82	2.29

12) As to municipal libraries:

They should be located within 1.5 km from people's dwellings.
Circulation per capita are 2 vols. Borrowers are 15% of the population.

	Towns, Villages	Cities, Wards
Annual book purchase	more than 2,000 v.	more than 125 v. per 1,000 inhabitants
① Professional librarians	more than 5	more than 1 per 7,500 inhabitants
② Non professional lib.	half of ①	half of ①

Branch of municipal libraries (extracted)

Population	Floor spce (m ²)	Book holdings
10,000	360	More than 15,000 v.
20,000	520	(1 v. per capita +
30,000	680	5,000 reference books)

13) Finance (1982) (000,000,000 yen, 1\$=249.08 yen, 1982)

	Grand Total	Excluding bonds & donations			
		Total	Nation	Pre.	Mun.
Citizens' public hall	232	196	14	2	178
Prefectural libraries	21	18	0.3	18	-
Municipal libraries	111	92	4	1	87

14) Circulation (000 volumes)

	Total	Municipal lib.*	Prefectural lib.	Privately supported pub. lib.
To the persons	217,337	208,956	8,096	285
(including by book mobiles)	(26,224)	(24,319)	(1,905)	(-)
* including union regional libraries.	719 (703)			
				Population (000) 119,316
Circulation to the groups are 9,883,000 volumes.				
- 13(14) -				

Population of municipalities		Circulation per capita		
		Average	No. 1	No. 2
(Towns & Villages)	-14,999	1.75	8.56	8.06
(" ")	15,000-	1.88	8.20	6.87
(Cities)	-39,999	1.47	4.63	3.93
(")	40,000-	2.08	7.05	7.01
(")	60,000-	2.48	10.59	6.87
(")	100,000-	2.37	7.50	7.07
(")	200,000-	2.07	6.30	4.10
(")	300,000-	2.34	6.02	5.01
(")	10 Big Cities	1.91	3.05	2.49
Wards (in Tokyo)		3.56	7.05	6.19

- 16) JLA have published "Nippon Decimal Classification", "Nippon Cataloging Rule", "Basic Subject Headings", and adopted the declaration of libraries' freedom (1954, 1979), and the principles of librarians' ethics (1980).

Acknowledgement. Mr. WATANABE Shin'ichi of Dōshisha University read my report and gave useful advices.

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Division: Libraries Serving the General
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Section: Public Libraries

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Charging for public library services

by

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County Librarian
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United Kingdom

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Value added services

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1. The Working Group on Charges for Public Libraries sought information from a number of centres, and although a 100% response was not received useful information was obtained from Brazil, the German Democratic Republic, the Netherlands, Norway and the United Kingdom. From this information it was possible to build up a picture of current opinion on direct charging for library services in several countries. Some background information was also obtained regarding services for which no direct charges are made but which could attract charges in the future.

2. When considering direct charges there is a danger of examining the subject from one point of view. The Working Group was aware of this potential danger and discussed the various facets rather than making a blanket recommendation to cover all charges. Even within the tradition of a "free" public library service charges are imposed for some services. Clearly it is not practicable for every conceivable part of a library and information service to be provided free of charge to everyone regardless of the real costs involved.

3. There is another factor which may be significant in any decision to impose charges and this reflects the political, social and economic consensus of the country concerned. Is there, for example a will to encourage education through the free supply of books to all? Whilst such factors were mentioned in the responses received they were deemed to contribute to the debate rather than significantly influence its outcome. Consequently it is not intended to direct a great deal of attention here to this matter, but rather to emphasise that the aims and objectives of a library service will inevitably, and quite rightly, play a significant part in the way that service is organised and the priorities which are accorded to various activities. For example it became very clear in discussion within the Working Group that Denmark places great importance on the provision of "quality" fiction; not for them the seeking of public

popularity through an appeal to the mass market. Similarly in the UK it was reported that a number of public library systems gave greater emphasis to material which met informational and educational needs rather than recreational demand. There was also a stout defence of the concept of free general lending services. They have stated their Public Library Aims and Objectives as:

"To contribute to sustaining the quality of life in all its aspects - educational, economic, industrial, scientific and cultural - and promote the concept of a democratic society in which equal opportunity exists for all to develop into true citizens, with whole and balanced personalities leading to an increase in the sum of man's happiness and awareness of himself, his fellow men and his environment. This contribution is afforded through the public library as a multi-purpose information/education/cultural agency. It should make freely available the records of man's experience in the form of books and related materials to all who may ask, and thus promote and foster the free flow of information and ideas".

4. The Working Group considered too the impact of information technology upon the public library service and the effect this could have upon policies for direct charging. Allied to this, and a cause of much debate and contention, is the role of specialists - "information brokers" - who obtain information, package it, perhaps give it enhanced value and then sell on to clients. Future changes were also briefly mentioned recognising that technological change could raise new problems in the years ahead.

5. The use of public libraries is in the main print on paper and made up of two main segments:

- (i) The lending of books for use in the home;

- (ii) The organisation of collections of material for consultation within the library with, ideally, professionally trained library staff acting as intermediaries.

6. The Scandinavian countries, Brazil, the German Democratic Republic and the UK emphasised the no direct charge service. Indeed as far as the UK is concerned it was pointed out that the service was organised on a "free" (that is local government taxation supported) basis from the first Public Library Act of 1850. At that time no provision was made for the purchase of material - it being expected that books would be donated for use in the library! The important thing was the concept that the service should be fully supported from public funds for the benefit of the whole population; not just that portion of the population which could afford to pay a subscription. Brazil emphasised the need to attract people to libraries because the reading habit was not as widespread as in some countries. Significantly the people who need a free service most are the one the library is most anxious not to put off by imposing a direct charge.

7. In certain countries the concept of a "free" library service is embodied in legislation. For example in Norway a previous library Act forbade the imposition of charges. However, during consideration of proposed new library legislation the following was included in the preamble:

"The King may issue regulations establishing further rules governing the right to demand payment for specific library services, with the exception of book lending".

Interestingly and importantly during the debate in Parliament the final voting removed this clause, so that the current law upholds the principle of a free library service, without conditions.

8. In the UK the concept of "no direct charges" for basic library services was re-affirmed in the Public Libraries and Museums Act 1964 (the most recent public library legislation enacted). However, the possibility of changing the system in order to allow a charge to be made has been raised on a number of occasions and in different guises during the past six years. One of the most significant was a suggestion by a few public library authorities that direct charging for lending books should be allowed as a way of alleviating financial constraints and lack of resources. This was discussed by the Association of County Councils where Members were initially unable to agree on whether charges should be introduced or not. However, following a report by Max Broome for the Committee which deals with library matters it was shown that the introduction of charges would:

- (i) impede the free flow of information required for the education and training of an individual through life;
- (ii) lead to a reduction of the number of people able to take advantage of library services because of cost barriers;
- (iii) cost a good deal to implement;
- (iv) lead to a distortion in the pattern of supply to minority and specialist interests by concentrating on the popular and therefore highest revenue earners;
- (v) lead to a loss of standards;
- (vi) produce only a small financial return in real terms;
- (vii) likely public reaction would not make the introduction of charging a politically feasible or desirable operation.

9. This, though, is not the view shared by all countries. Within the countries represented on the Working Group the Netherlands makes a charge in most libraries and amongst others, Federal Republic of Germany, France and the Irish Republic all make charges of varying levels for use of public library services. In the case of the Netherlands, public

libraries have never been free of charge. This is partly due to historical reasons where the original organisation was of autonomous Roman Catholic and Protestant public libraries as well as general public libraries. All of them were regarded by the government as having equal rights. They were thus all founded as private non-profit making organisations, a form which has continued to the present day even though denominational separation ceased in the late 40s. Some changes were introduced in 1975 when a new library act prohibited charging children a subscription fee or individual loan charge. The same library act obliged libraries to levy a subscription fee on adults.

10. What seems to be clear from information about the effect of charges in the public library service is that considerably less use is made of services when charges are introduced. Conversely where charges have been abolished experience shows that a considerable increase in use can be expected. For example membership figures for children in the Netherlands showed a dramatic increase when membership fees were abolished:

1974	1,124,350 members + 9.1% over previous yr
1975	1,556,782 members + 38.5% over previous yr
(year charges abolished)	
1976	1,882,942 members + 21% over previous yr
1977	2,153,651 members + 14.4% over previous yr

The figure for 1977 shows about 60% of Dutch children as members of the public library, with a much slower rate of growth for adults of about 5% per annum during that period. It is interesting to note that about 18% of Dutch adults are registered as members of the public library but that this understates the true and potential level of use due to the fact that charges are made per member thus leading to only one member per family joining the library in order to save subscription charges. A further significant fact to emerge from the information supplied by the Netherlands was the percentage of children who cease membership of the

public library service when they reach the age of 18 years; that is when they are eligible to pay an annual subscription in their own right.

Although it can only be an estimate (because of the reason stated above about family membership) it seems likely that about 40% of users cancel their subscription on reaching that age. As far as adult membership is concerned significantly increased charges for services in the early 1980s led to a decrease in the number of registered users and, where a charge was made each time an item was used, a decrease in the number of books issued.

11. Information obtained from the Irish Republic for another purpose also indicates that there has been a considerable decrease in use of lending services since the introduction of direct charges a few years ago.

12. Mention was made earlier about free access to an organised collection of books for consultation on the premises. In addition the professional librarian has been available to guide users to the most appropriate material as well as answering enquiries on a wide variety of topics. In many large libraries the importance of visits for study purposes far outweigh those made simply to borrow books. There was evidence from a library in the UK that 60% of personal visits were for other than borrowing books, that is, to use the other facilities available within the library. The situation still obtains. In the German Democratic Republic some charges are made where the service given goes beyond a defined level. In the UK it has been suggested that access to collections should be available free of charge but that enquiries beyond a certain level of complexity should attract a charge. This is not a technology based problem, although it is likely that the whole concept of such a charge has been brought to the fore by the use of computer based information retrieval systems which identify costs for individual pieces of information.

13. It is worth noting that in some countries reservations for books not immediately available on the shelves do not attract a reservation fee. On the other hand in the UK a charge may be made for the cost of notifying a reader that a book is awaiting collection at the library - but not for the work involved in tracing and supplying it. In many countries no charge is made for the cost of transporting material to meet such requests; some make a charge as, for example, that reported by the GDR.

14. Probably, though, the most significant force for change in charging policies has emerged from the use of computer technology in information retrieval. There is a basic difference in the form of material obtained by such means: unless the information is downloaded each consultation of the database may attract a charge to the organisation using it - very often on the basis of time used. This is in complete contrast to the purchase of print on paper where once purchased, only minimum additional costs are incurred for multiple consultations of the work.

15. This has led some information providers to conclude that electronic consultations should be paid for in full by library users. The alternative view is that the form in which information is presented is immaterial; the important factor is that electronic delivery often produces fuller information more quickly than traditional printed sources. The staff who are conducting the search are thus being provided with tools which make them more effective than they were previously; it is illogical, thus the argument goes, that a charge should be made on users where the information is obtained in the most cost effective way possible.

16. The basic dilemma is whether or not to charge for the use of technology in information retrieval. For some it is not yet a

significant problem because the wide use of external databases is not common within some public library services. For those services which do use the available technology it is a matter on which a variety of decisions has already been made. For example in the UK guidelines were formulated some years ago by the Library Association which recommended that no charges should be made for on-line searches. Although many public libraries now have access to such facilities it is also true to say that many do make some sort of charge for their use. A quite common practice is to allow a search for a specified length of time free of charge and then charge at connect time cost thereafter. Others have taken the view that the librarian should decide the most efficient way of carrying out a literature search and that if other than a manual search of print on paper is undertaken it would be because that is the most efficient way; consequently no charge would be made. Incidentally it is interesting to note that the Library Association in the UK is re-examining its policy statement on this matter and linking it with consideration of the relationship between the public and private sectors in the supply of information. The IFLA Working Group final report (1984) on the impact of information technology upon public libraries had strong views on this matter:

"It is a fundamental principle of librarianship - and laid down in the UNESCO - Manifesto - that services should be provided free of charge to the end user.

Basic philosophies do not change because of the use of new technologies and the working group finds no reason why knowledge should suddenly have to become a purchasable commodity just because it is recorded on something other than paper. At the beginnings of an era where information will become more and more important for the individual and for the societies as a whole it does not seem logical to suggest restraints on free access."

17. From the use of technology flows the concept of value added services.

Examples are:

- (i) a service tailored specifically to an individual client's need;
- (ii) a service which gives priority to speed of supply - the client receives the information more speedily than by normal services;
- (iii) a service which orders, explains and packages the information for the benefit of the end user;
- (iv) a service from which an overview of a particular topic can be obtained;
- (v) a service which provides information from a particular source at the express wish of the client.

18. It will be seen that many of these services could legitimately be carried out by private companies or by private sector information consultants. If the work is carried out by the public library should a charge then be made for such services? To what extent should the cost of services which are clearly more sophisticated, be defrayed from public funds?

19. A significant factor in this discussion must be the marginal cost of individual provision which may quite clearly show the balance of advantage to lie with funding from the public sector. There are a number of value added services provided at present by public libraries which may well be perceived as being of such interest and value to the client group served that they should be continued as a library contribution to the concept of social equity or support for the industrial base of a country.

20. In the UK two studies have been conducted of co-operative information systems using a mixture of public, academic, governmental and private sector libraries. These services have been shown to have developed in

very different ways. For example of the two largest, Hertfordshire Technical Information Service (HERTIS) is based upon Hatfield Polytechnic serving industrial members in the surrounding county area whilst Hampshire Technical Research Industrial and Commercial Service (HATRICS) is based upon the Hampshire County Library Service which acts as a facilitator in the passing of information between over 370 members comprising public companies, research institutes, higher educational establishments and a number of County Library Services. In both these cases a small annual membership subscription is charged to individual institutional members, but thereafter the services provided are free of direct charges - at some considerable cost to the County Councils involved. The relevant public authorities have agreed that the level of value added service provided for this client group is worth considerable support; hence the concept of no direct charges for use. The contribution made by the individual member firm to the economic health of the community is seen as being of considerable importance in these cases.

21. Before leaving the subject of technology it is interesting to note new developments which may affect the whole area of value added services. As has been shown remote on-line information services may give a value added service especially when they require the presence of an intermediary (librarian) searcher between the database and the end user. However, if technology allows library and information services to buy in large databases (as they would books) it could well be that there would be very strong arguments for on-line access to be provided in house free of direct charge to the end user. For example the development of CD-ROM will provide, in an automated form, information at minimal additional marginal cost to the client. It is not the purpose of this paper to discuss the types of material which could be stored in this way suffice to say that the possibilities look exciting and will, no doubt, be

refined in the coming months. Indeed within the whole field of information technology the challenge will be for public librarians to work with other members of the library and information professions and with publishers so that access to information is not impeded by charging mechanisms.

22. There are other areas of activity within the public library for which charges could and are made in certain circumstances. But in assessing the possibilities offered by making a charge for services a clear distinction needs to be drawn between gross income as opposed to net income. This is an important element in the charging equation but one which is often over-looked. In many cases where income is generated within the public sector a true "profit" is not being made if all the overhead costs - staff, premises, equipment and so on - are taken into account. It is therefore necessary to be clear as to the level of income expected from a particular activity; the following five groups are suggested as an aid to discussion on this matter:

- (i) Those services for which a profit can be seen on each operation (e.g. photocopying);
- (ii) Those services which are considered to be of added value and for which a charge is made at a level which, it is anticipated, will cover original material costs (e.g. in the UK many public libraries make a charge for the loan of gramophone records. In total the money received for such loans approximates to the cost of new purchases);
- (iii) Those services for which, for some reason, such as local statute, a nominal charge can only be made (e.g. in the UK the charge made for the cost of notification that reserved material is available for collection);
- (iv) Those services which are provided within the overall framework of the library service and which are available from time to

time for use on a chargeable basis, as a contribution to the total cost of running such an amenity (e.g. rental of exhibition space, meeting rooms etc. within a public library);

- (v) Those services which are wholly or partially recharged to Departments or sectors of government;

23. A list can therefore be prepared within these categories of services which are provided from different types of public libraries and for which some charge could be made. Using the headings shown in paragraph 22 above the following activities have been identified:

- (i) Photocopying

Sale of material published by other than the library service

Advertisement distribution (e.g. distribution of bookmarks)

Sale of refreshments

Rental of property no longer required for library purposes, or buildings constructed for associated purposes

Commission on sales of works of art sold through libraries

Sale of transport tickets

Sale of publicity material such as badges, carrier bags, ballpoint pens etc.

- (ii) Subscriptions and hiring charges in connection with the loan of audio materials

Subscriptions and hiring charges in connection with the loan of video material

Picture lending charge

Sale of material published by the library service including books, cards etc.

Sale of maps and plans

Hire of space for photographic booths and other services - e.g. map of the area

Sale of inhouse bookbinding services
 Lending of jigsaw puzzles
 Lending of computer software
 Lending and hiring for use within the library of microcomputers
 (iii) Fines for keeping books and other materials on loan beyond the
 date set for return
 Reservation charge for an item to be supplied from within or
 outside the library system
 (iv) Sale of withdrawn books and other material no longer required
 by the library service
 Fees for the replacement of lost library books
 Charges for lost and damaged library materials
 Fees for sponsorship of special events
 Private telephone calls, including public telephone points
 Events staged within the library for which an admission charge
 is made
 Sale of wastepaper
 Sale of capital equipment no longer required within the library
 service
 Charges for on-line services
 Subscriptions for film, music and other club type activities
 held in the library
 Hire of equipment
 Sale of microforms
 Individual subscriptions for support groups associated with the
 library
 Sale of replacement library tickets
 Charges for sending telefacsimile (fax) messages to other fax
 terminals
 Provision of library skills on a contract basis including
 abstracting and press cutting services

- (v) Services provided on a contract basis for other local or
central government departments
Services provided with the aid of special government grants
over and above the normal revenue support

24. This report has been written to encourage the sharing of information about charges in public libraries. It presented the facts as found by the Working Group and highlighted some of the main areas for consideration. It has also attempted to widen the scope of the debate to include the attitude that librarians should adopt to charging for value added services. Finally it has attempted to identify specific mechanisms and charges which may be employed. It has not attempted to define the role of the private entrepreneur in the supply of publicly available information.

25. What we are seeing is an evolving pattern of public library use which is adapting constantly to technological advances in the communication of information. It is not easy to lay down policies, generally applicable, which will stand the test of time. None the less the Working Group considered that certain ideals and standards were basic to the public library service. Although no formal recommendations were made by the Group it was generally agreed that any barrier to access to books and other materials, such as the introduction of charges, would lead, almost certainly, to a decline in library use. Apparent financial gains which might accrue would be marginal compared with the total cost of library provision and would, it is suggested, be more than offset by the detrimental effect of such a move on the educational and social benefits.

26. Further action could therefore be:

- (i) That IFLA re-affirm the concept of a public library service
freely available for the borrowing and consultation of books,

including the provision of advice and assistance by professional librarians.

- (ii) Individual library associations should also debate the matter and re-affirm their views in line with the IFLA statement.
- (iii) In addition, individual library associations should examine the concept of charging for value added services in order that their views can be given further consideration by IFLA.

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STATISTIC ANALYSIS AS A FORM OF
MANAGEMENT OF LIBRARIANSHIP(On the example of the libraries
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Director of the ESSR State Library
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STATISTIC ANALYSIS AS A FORM OF MANAGEMENT OF
LIBRARIANSHIP (ON THE EXAMPLE OF THE LIBRARIES
OF THE ESTONIAN SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLIC)

The Estonian SSR is one of the smallest republics of the equal in rights union of fifteen republics of the USSR (its territory is less than 50,000 sq.km. that is 0,2 % of the territory of the Soviet Union). The Estonian people, over 1 million in number, who have lived on the Baltic Sea coast since olden times have ancient traditions in book-publishing and librarianship.

The first authentic information about a printed book in the Estonian language dates back from 1525 and since 1632 Estonian books have been printed regularly. The first Estonian newspaper is published since 1766.

The publication of the epos "Kalevipoeg" in 1857-1861 started the development of the Estonian national literature.

The first scientific library was founded in 1552 in Tallin. A hundred years later it was transformed into a town library which was available to school teachers, lawyers and students besides ecclesiastics. By the end of the XVIII-th century ACADEMIA GUSTAVIANA-CAROLINA became the largest scientific library. Its collections became the basis of Tartu University Library which was founded in 1802. The first public libraries in Estonia appeared in the second half of the XIX century. They numbered 120 by the end of the 80-ies.

In our days historical information on book-publishing, readers and reading is of great value to us. It shows the development of education and book science, the structure of demands and values, the development of social views and the

history of the formation of the national culture. Such information is no less important for librarianship either, for it helps to investigate the way a library has gone from an enlightening institution to a large system which contains great information potential for the development of science, economy and culture.

Thanks to the Leninist national policy of the CPSU, to the close cooperation with other soviet republics within the united economic complex of the country the Estonian SSR has turned into an industrial republic with developed agriculture and high level of culture for the earliest possible period of time. More than 70 % of our population are urban citizens.

In the Estonian SSR up to 2,000 titles of books and booklets in 16,8 million copies altogether are published annually. Eleven books (an average price is 78 copecks) for every citizen were published in the republic in 1934. Besides books and booklets 108 titles of various periodicals in 30,2 million copies altogether are published annually in the republic. For every 100 citizens 103 issues of magazines and journals and 83 numbers of newspapers are published every year. Books in the Estonian language make up 66 % of the total number of the books and 71 % of the total number of copies. Among them 78 % (1,000 books) are original works, 22 % are literature in translation. Books are translated from 33 languages, among them from 16 languages of the peoples of the USSR and from 17 foreign languages. The Estonian SSR is in the first place in the Soviet Union for publishing books per capita. The publication of the latest supplementary edition of the Encyclopaedia of the Soviet Estonia (220,000 copies for the population of 1,5 million citizens) may be considered a distinctive cultural

phenomenon. The fact that works by many Japanese prose-writers and poets - K.Abe, R.Akutagawa, Y.Kawabata, G.Kaike, S.Katayama, E.Khotta, S.Ando and many others have been published in the Estonian language is also of interest. Japanese fairy tales have been re-edited for Estonian children twice, the edition of collected Japanese poems which were published in 1985 was quickly sold out. The number of the copies of the works mentioned above was from 20 to 45 thousand.

A broad network of open to general use and free of charge libraries has been created in the Estonian SSR. Over 1,500 libraries of different types, departmental libraries among them, are functioning in the republic. The leading scientific libraries of the republic are the the State Library of the Estonian SSR named after Fr.R.Kreitsvald, the Scientific Library of the ESSR Academy of Sciences and the Republican Scientific Technical Library.

The State Library of the Estonian SSR named after Fr.R. Kreitsvald has been the leading library of the republic since 1940. Since December 1953 it is named after Frederick Reingold Kreitsvald, the compiler of the Estonian national epos "Kalevipoeg". At the present time its collections contain over 3,6 million volumes which are used by more than 15,000 regular readers. One of the most important tasks of the library is collecting and acquiring all the publications edited on the territory of the Estonian SSR, in the Estonian language and also those related to Estonia or written by Estonian authors in any language, in any place and at any time. As Kreitsvald Library gets compulsory copies of all the publications of the Soviet Union it has a most complete in the Estonian SSR repertory of literature in Russian and in

the languages of other peoples of the USSR. As the result of active book exchange the library has acquired a considerable collection of foreign publications both modern and old.

The library carries on many-sided scientific research work in the history of the book, librarianship, unique books, professional terminology and sociology of reading. Side by side with other functions typical of national libraries of many countries of the world a specific feature of the Soviet libraries is their methodological managing role in the organization of the work of public libraries which is based in many respects on the analysis of statistic indices.

In the Soviet Union library services to the most broad masses of the population are delivered by public libraries, therefore in my speech my primary attention will be paid to the opportunities of the use of statistic data applied to the network of libraries.

At the present time more than a hundred¹ year history of the development of the public libraries of Estonia shows that the simplest calculations of the number of books in a collection, calculations of books deliveries and of the number of readers have existed in the library practice since the foundation of libraries. But the information about purposeful collecting statistics and about the necessity of their analysis dates back only from the middle of the 19-20-ies when the relations of the Estonian librarianship with the librarianship of the Soviet Union and with Scandinavian countries began developing.

At present the Estonian republic has about 600 public libraries which, according to the administrative territorial structure of the republic, are united into 21 centralized library systems, each with a central library in a district or a town at the head. Since 1973 the state statistics which show

their activities are done by computers, therefore it takes less time to do their analysis and generalization.

What statistics exist and what aims are they to reach?

The basis of the state registration statistics is calculation of the primary data. In the Soviet Union such calculations are done according to the state standards of the SIBID system and the standards are obligatory for all the libraries irrespective of their subordination. Officially approved primary registration forms and units of calculation ensure obtaining data of unified forms from all the libraries for a certain calendar period.

Such data contain information about: the library, the number of seats in the reading rooms and in outside units that are served by the library; the operations with the book collections; the quantity of readers and their visits; the distribution of book deliveries according to their content; the intrasystem exchange and the interlibrarian subscription; the arrangements held at the library and the library personal.

The whole sum of the quantitative indices defines the volume of work and the present level of the work of every library and of the libraries of an administrative region or of the republic in general. All these data should be taken into consideration in managing decisions. The quantitative indices make it possible to define the whole complex of relative data which, to our minds, makes it possible to characterize the quality of the work of the library (for example, book provision, frequency of reading, book circulations etc.)

Regional (town and district) libraries submit generalized reports on the public libraries of their administrative region

to the State Library of the Estonian SSR which processes them by computers and then return to the libraries the resultant statistic report on their town or district and tables of all final quantitative data and relative indices for the whole republic. These data make it possible to compare certain results for different parameters: inside a region and average indices of the republic. All those data may be divided into the following data complexes which characterize:

- the collections of a library (the total quantity of books by the end of the year, average book provision for one citizen and one reader, total quantity of books acquired and their quantity for one reader; book circulations in general and of different sections of literature; the quantity of the books written off which are outdated, damaged or lost and their percentage of the total number of books);

- the region of its services and readers (the number of citizens and the level of providing them with public libraries, among them data for grown-up population and for children should be introduced);

- book deliveries (the total number and for one member of a library staff, the proportion of different sections of literature in the general amount of the book deliveries);

- the arrangements held by a library - the total number and for children in particular;

- the staff of a library - the total number, then according to their education and their length of service.

The store of statistics listed above makes it possible, to analyse the work of public libraries in detail: of any library, of the libraries of a district (town) or of the republic in general. Every library, district or town has an opportunity

of comparing its own results with those of other similar libraries and with the average indices for Estonia. Thanks to this one can see the differences and look for the causes.

On the basis of the analysis of the statistics recommendations on an optimum composition of public libraries collections (its book provision, structure of the collections according to the sections of literature etc.) have been worked out in the Estonian SSR. The recommendations differ to a certain extent from all-union ones and this may be explained by the historically formed system of the settlement of the population and the practice of the publication of literature in the Estonian language. The statistics are objective initial material to decide the questions of providing libraries with room and finance, additional personnel and equipment. This is guaranteed by the existing system or the standards of librarianship.

On the whole country scale statistics make it possible to compare the state and the levels of librarian services between republics and regions (the Baltic Sea region, the Central Asian region, the Transcaucasian region etc.). There is no doubt it is not always possible to compare the indices of different regions for there are differences because of the peculiarities of some regions, but in case there are not such objective differences the question of the cause of the differences in indices between them arouses. It is necessary to answer those questions in order to start corrigating or even equalizing their states.

For the last 10 years there appeared a tradition of choosing the best libraries according to the results of their work in Estonia. While doing this we made an attempt of

using a computer by the way of introducing appropriate measuring scales into its data bank. But the diversity of the library services practice made us to give up the idea. The quantitative indices can't characterize all the qualitative and content aspects of libraries activities. It is impossible to formalize the level of the erudition of a librarian and his talent of communication with readers, it is difficult to define readers' satisfaction with the level of the library complying with their requests, the design of the arrangement of the collections, the interior of the library etc. At the present time the best public libraries are ascertained by central town or district libraries through comprehensive analysis of both quantitative and qualitative parameters of all the aspects of their work.

Statistics have a peculiarity - they show what we do not know, reveal what additional statistic data we need to manage some processes. In order to get such information we must use selective statistic information and carry on special research.

In the second half of 1960-ies special research of the processes of reading with the application of various librarian scientific and sociological methods started in the Estonian SSR. This work began with studying readers of a public library and ended with analysis of the full picture of the republic population reading. At the same time since 1970-ies we have carried on detailed analysis of such important for us problems as studies of readers' demands and interests in order to regulate the process of reading. Its result was the creation of methodology and methods of individual service for readers. The creation of the system of individual service has become to a certain extent a new stage: one can now speak about

the studies of reading in the Estonian SSR as research traditions.

In 1980-ies research interest was concentrated on the problem of the content of reading, that is on the relations of "text - recipient". Specialists in librarianship in close cooperation with sociological psychologists and specialists in literature worked out the typology of readers according to the levels of their reciplence of a work of literature. The increase of the pedagogical role of a librarian in the field of reading was specially accentuated in the experiment "The role of reading, a library and librarianship in the continuous system of education and formation of personality" which has been carried on since 1985.

This research which is carried on in the form of annual representative interrogatories of grown-up population is supposed to give us information for comparative analysis of literature aims, readers' perception of the contemporary literature, for clearer definition of a librarian's role in recommendations of books. The information received in this way will be still more important in the light of the realization of the decisions of the XXVII-th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union the essence of which for us is raising the role of libraries in the intensification of the economy in every possible way and in satisfying constantly growing requirements and interests of soviet people.

The avallability of true and different indices of state statistics on the activities of the public libraries for many years made it possible to carry on two more great types of research in the Estonian SSR:

1. To analyse the work of the public libraries in the conditions of centralization;

2. To compile the prognosis of the development of the libraries up to 2000.

The centralization of the network of the state public libraries of the republic carried out in 1971-1975 has led to many positive results in the content and organization of the services for the population of the republic. But the growth of the sphere of the influence of libraries gave rise to some unfavourable criticism. Therefore at the beginning of 1980-ies when the majority of the libraries had worked under the new conditions for 5-10 years scholars were confronted with new tasks: to analyse in every way the results, to present a survey of all the qualitative and quantitative changes, to ascertain any omissions or shortcomings and their causes.

The conclusions and proposals of the scholars were used then to work out new decisions concerning organization and management.

The statistics on libraries were used to build up polyvariant models of the future to compile prognosis of the development of the network of the public libraries of the Estonian SSR up to 2000. The extrapolation of the statistics (and this is possible in case they had permanent character of the development in the past) on the network of the public libraries, their collections, readers and book deliveries in correlation with demographic data and prognostic preconditions on a probable way of the development of the book publishing of the republic makes it possible to define the main tendencies in the development of the parameters of the librarianship stated below. I should say that the models of the development were

made for both an individual library of a village, town or district and the republic in general.

The more exactly they define various aspects of the activities of libraries and library systems and the better chance they give to estimate the reality, the more valuable the statistics are. Therefore the role of statistics in the organization of the work of libraries depends in many ways on the goals they are aimed at. The collection of statistic information can't be end in itself, that is statistics for the sake of statistics, but they should serve means of achieving a specific practical aim or task.

The validity of the formalization by collecting, processing and interpretation of statistics depends on:

1. Whether we consider librarianship a phenomenon or a process. In the former case statistics should be collected so that librarianship can be used as means of studying social phenomena and factors which determinate them. In this case librarianship in general, an integral part of which is the activities of public libraries, as a phenomenon may define:

- general state of culture and structure of values in it;
- social situation that determines the content of reading and forming (or perhaps not forming) active responsible participation of people in social life;
- disposition of population towards such values as good education, erudition and competence;
- state of education in the process of which not only ability of reading is formed but also respect for knowledge which one should perfect all one's conscious life.

We understand process as sequence of events which determine one another. The work of a public library is a complex of successive processes which are determined to the main process -

service to readers. This main process accumulates all the rest: collecting as a process, arranging and indexing as a process, organization of storage as a process, creation of informative finding aids systems as a process. When one speaks about sequence and mutual determination of different processes one should stress in particular that the main process can't go well unless the mechanism of the organization or all the other processes are adjusted. And as only processes can be objects of management.

(people are always subjects of management) it proves the significance and the leading role of organization of libraries bibliographic processes in achieving the aims of management. At the same time the data on the results of processes and dynamics of their development may again define librarianship as a phenomenon.

2. For what management aims we interpret registration (based on summing up calculations or arithmetical means to characterize the main indices) or research data.

The former serves, without doubt, to work out effective decisions. It is necessary to have prognostic information in the form of multivariant correlative models, having chosen the optimum one, in order to work out decisions of strategic and general cultural character. In every day practical activities we need both methods of approach, and statistics in the form of a system of indices are supposed to expose the content of the process being analysed or of a phenomenon through their quantitative components.

CONCLUSIONS

By the present time mathematical statistics have taken a firm and natural place in everyday practice almost in all fields and branches of human activities. This is also true for librarianship. The set of mathematical statistic instruments is used in the process of generalization of libraries bibliographic processes. Of course, it has become possible mainly thanks to the development of computers and programming but one should not underestimate the fact that modern librarians have learned by themselves to interpret and use statistics to comprehend and improve their work.

During the period of the restoration of the Soviet power in Estonia in 1940-1941 only the first steps were made to fill the librarian work with new socialist content. Since the end of 1944 after the liberation from the fascist occupation ideological and practical work in the field of librarianship and bibliography has been renewed in the republic. The collections of the public libraries have increased approximately 2,5 times and book deliveries - 2 times as large, readers' involvement has grown by half.

The all-union statutes of systematic creation of a network of public libraries, state financing and providing with room and appropriate equipment, purposeful training of personnel are the basis of the modern organization of the work of libraries.

Our comprehensive analysis of the work of the public libraries of the Estonian SSR makes it possible to state that a fruitful path of development has been covered by them for the postwar period, namely:

- the network of the public libraries and their collections have been arranged in a proper way;

- the methods of the work with readers and its main direction-methods of individual service - have been reexamined;
- the system of creation and improvement of the competence of libraries personnel has been worked out;
- the programme of the tasks of the public libraries of the republic has been worked out.

However nowadays a new information situation exists. The whole population has most broad access for all publications, radio- and television programmes in all the soviet republics, including the Estonian SSR. Specialized libraries which have informative potential reflect constantly growing specific demands of an individual better. Personal libraries which meet spiritual interests of any person as a unique phenomenon with unique demands are growing rapidly. What role do public libraries play in this situation? What functions will they have in the new information situation? These problems should be studied thoroughly but without doubt statistics will play a very important role in it.

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1986

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PUBLIC LIBRARIES

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Development of Public libraries in Tokyo

by

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(Former Librarian of Tama City Library)

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Takashi Itoh

Japan began the first step to the modern society since the Restoration of 1867. But only seven years after the Restoration, national-wide movement for people's freedom and rights. They required to establish the constitution and to establish the National Diet. In this movement they began many small libraries to study themselves and propagate their claims. Some of those small libraries were in Tokyo. A group of young people established a small library of this kind at Itsukaichi, a small mountain village in the western part of Tokyo. They studied European politics, laws, philosophy and so on through the books in the library. Then they wrote out a draft of the Constitution which was known by its democratic contents.

In 1902 Sahei Ohashi who had succeeded in publishing business established a voluntary library following public libraries in Europe. Ohashi appointed a man who had studied European and American public libraries to be the chief librarian. This library was very good, but got out of existence.

The Hibiya Library, the first public library in Tokyo, was established in 1908, which had about 1500 square metres of floor space and a stock of 48,100 volumes. This library was operated by good librarians and had a full reader. They served to children, too.

In 1909 City of Tokyo established the second public library, Fukugawa Library. It was the result of a donation 1,000yen by many people of the area to build the library. This library had a floor space of 500 square metres and open access to shelves. City of Tokyo established small free public libraries with popular books attached to elementary schools, the number of which reached fifteen by 1912.

Jikai Imazawa had been an assistant librarian since the beginning of the Hibiya Library took office as the chief librarian in 1914 and systematized all Tokyo City Libraries. He brought co-operative book selection, centralized book processing, printed catalogue-card, inter-library loan by bicycle, collecting local materials, improvement of service to children and so on in effect. Imazawa wrote in the initial number of the bulletin of the Hibiya Library, "A public library is an organ for the people's life-long self-education. Library staffs should help

people as far as finances permit and should not spare any efforts. He published "The Guide to Public library" and "A Study on Children's Library", that affected librarians in Japan.

By 1922, the number of public libraries in Tokyo reached twenty, the number of library stock reached over 200,000 volumes and annual issue about 1,900,000 volumes.

On the first, September, 1923, Tokyo was visited by a great earthquake. Fortyfive per cent Of the area of Tokyo vanished. 3,400,000 people lost something by the earthquake and more than 100 ,000 people died. Twelve public libraries and more than one hundred thousand volumes disappeared. Many of library staffs lost their houses. They immediately began to work to reopen the lost libraries . They set up newspaper reading station for people who wanted correct informations and also very small libraries with fifty books, newspapers and periodicals. They set up six temporary libraries with about tow thousand volumes by December of the year. By the end of next year, all of the lost twelve libraries were reopend attached to elementary schools. But full-scale rebuilding of those libraries did not finish untill 1936.

In 1933 the Library Act was revised and public libraries began to lose freedom. Administrators took librarian's place. After 1935 the number of library users decreased year by year. We think that the decrease of library users was resulted from book selection which did not fit with user's requirement. Thought controll by the government and book censorship became severer and severer and books on socialism, democracy, U.S.A., Britain, U.S.S.R. and so on were prohibited even to read.

Under the very difficult condition like violent air raid, shortage of staff many of whom had to work in the war industry, shortage of money and so on, they worked hard to continue library services, but closed libraries increased day by day. At the end of the war only one library was alive. Twelve libraries out of twenty eight were burnt down and other twelve were partly burnt by air raid. And four hundred and forty thousand library books were also burnt.

Library staffs made desperate efforts to protect books from war fire. A few staffs of the Fukagawa Library helped the library by putting out fire bombs which came down to the library. Hibiya Library bought more than three hundred thousand volumes of books from book collectors who could not take their book collection out of Tokyo. Library staffs carried those books on man-pulled cart which they pulled to a mountain village about fifty kilometres away from the library. But many of those books were lost by war fire before they were carried out.

Immediately after the war in 1945, they began to work to reopen closed libraries. Surugadai Library was reopened in October and fourteen libraries were reopened by the end of 1946. In 1949 Hibiya Library was rebuilt. Increase of the number of public libraries in Tokyo was very slow in 1950's. It took ten more years until all of twentythree wards of Tokyo had public libraries. In 1960's younger library staffs in Tokyo made efforts to increase the number of books circulated, to adopt open access to books and to begin services to children. At the end of 1960's members of the Public Library Problem studying Society began to make efforts to abolish library entering card on which library users had to write name, address, age, job and so on. They also made efforts to start book request service. Hino City Library which began service by only a mobile library lent two hundred thousand volumes in a year which was surprise for public libraries in Japan.

In the late half of 1960's, groups of mothers began to establish and maintain small children's libraries in Tokyo as well as other part of Japan and the number of those children's libraries that were called BUNKO in Japanese reached a few hundreds in Tokyo. Bunko not only circulates children's books but they hold reading party for children and parents, reading aloud party and so on. Many of public libraries lend children's books to Bunkoes for a long term and they hold short courses on children's books to support mothers. Those mothers and people of the area in many wards and cities in Tokyo appeal the authorities to build libraries and tell their opinions about the plan of library buildings and library services. They have been contributing to the development of public libraries.

In 1970's public libraries in Tokyo developed very much. In 1971 Tokyo Municipal Government enforced a grant of money for the cost of half of new library buildings and one third of the cost of book purchase on condition that a qualified chief librarian and qualified staffs are appointed. This grant was abolished in 1976, but the effect continued till 1981. The number of public libraries in Tokyo increased from ninety-nine to one hundred and seventy, in five years from 1971 to 1976 and from one hundred and seventy to two hundred and forty-nine in the next five years. Tama City Library adopted a computer for library jobs and other libraries followed. Speed of spread of computers in public libraries accelerated in 1980's and it could be estimated that more than three hundred libraries have got computers in Japan.

In 1980's increase of the number of public libraries in Tokyo is falling and only twenty-six new

libraries were built in four years from 1976 to 1980. The number of increase of annual issue is also falling.

The Tokyo Municipal Central Library was built in 1973 which is expected to be a large reference library and the center of the system of library co-operation in Tokyo. But the union catalogue of public libraries in Tokyo is not yet compiled. So, books for inter-library loan are mainly supplied from the stock of Tokyo Municipal Central Library which causes some troubles to reference function of it. The number of annual inter-library loan is only thirty thousand volumes. This is caused by that the Tokyo Municipal Central Library is in shortage of money for book purchase, and that inter-library loan is available only once two weeks as the books are carried by the library mobiles. Tokyo Municipal Central Library is now preparing for a large computer system which I consider fairly good. Many of ward and city librarians expect for union catalogue on computer base with location code, facsimile network among libraries and radical improvement of inter-library loan.

Public libraries in Tokyo as well as libraries in other districts suffer from shortage of support from the national government and local authorities. Though library staff is the most important element of the library, twentythree wards of Tokyo did not enlist qualified staff in these twenty years and the the number of unqualified librarians is bigger than that of qualified librarians. We have been studying Japanese way of library services and we think this is the way to contribute a bit to the public libraries of the world which we have learned a lot from.



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PUBLIC LIBRARY STATISTICS IN THE UNITED STATES:

CURRENT PRACTICES AND TRENDS

by Ernest A. DiMattia, J.r. President

The Ferguson Library
Stamford, Connecticut, USA

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PUBLIC LIBRARY STATISTICS IN THE UNITED STATES:
CURRENT PRACTICES AND TRENDS

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From the establishment of the first community public library in the United States in the mid 1800's to the myriad of present-day institutions which dot the country, the keeping of detailed records for the purposes of measuring use has been a way of life. The diligence and thoroughness with which libraries had been collecting information changed little for almost a century. During this period, the statistical records maintained by public libraries generally comprised three basic elements: number of books in the collection, number of books circulated and number of registered borrowers. Normally these measurements were classified by size of population (on a per capita basis) for purposes of comparison and relative value. The advent of standards or recommended minimum levels of acceptability of these elements perpetuated this approach to library measurement and evaluation.

As the 20th Century progressed, additional numerical measures were identified and new dimensions added to the scope of available information. Such tabulations as size and educational level of staff, number of requests for materials and services, attendance at programs, use of copying and other specialized equipment, and expenditures for personnel and collections came into vogue. Spurred by the efforts of the state library agencies and the federal government, these measurements resulted in data that were not only collated but widely disseminated as well.

Nationally, our library organizations have played a vital role in determining what is to be collected and how it is to be analyzed. Of special importance has been the influence of the American Library Association (ALA) through its Office for Research and through two of its divisions, the Library Administration and Management Association (LAMA) and the Public Library Association (PLA).

LAMA's Statistics Section "exercises overall responsibility for all matters pertaining to needs for, and uses of, the statistical measurement of library

resources, services, and facilities, regardless of type of library or functional activity. This section works with other organizations, agencies, and associations in planning and advising in areas of library statistical concerns; recommends and/or prepares guidelines, standards, and tools to be used in statistical activities; and recommends inclusions, definitions, procedures, and policies concerning library statistics." Working through such committees as National Data Collection and Use, Using Statistics for Library Planning and Evaluation and Using Statistics for Library Presentations and Communications, as well as a variety of Task Forces, the Association monitors the development of statistical methodology on behalf of ALA.

The Goals, Guidelines and Standards for Public Libraries Committee of PLA has as a part of its mission "to present recommendations on the development of appropriate standards, recognizing the use of standards as an evaluative tool for library administrators, library trustees, funding authorities, and citizens involved in public library service."

During the past two decades, a variety of projects have been undertaken which attempt to deal directly with the development of adequate statistics and the analysis of available data. Under the sponsorship of the Public Library Association, a series of major works was commissioned to address the present status and future growth of public library services and use.

Minimum Standards for Public Library Systems 1966 was the first of these significant attempts to quantify the utilization of public library activities. The study offered a series of "guiding principles" each of which was followed by appropriate standards. It was emphasized that the standards alone were but tools which of themselves could provide only a partial analysis and could be used only as a "quick" measure for determining status. The emphasis on evaluating the principles involved and minimizing the independent consideration of numerical standards signaled an important shift in performance evaluation.

Five years later, a work entitled Proposed Public Library Goals - Feasibility Study was published and aptly dubbed "a strategy for public library change." Citing the changes in society as manifested in declining library use and support, this study offered a series of recommendations to aid in both coping with and reversing this downward trend. Of prime

concern was the second of its four-part plan of action which advocated a program of extensive research "to provide needed knowledge for effective performance."

In 1973, the much heralded (and justifiably so) work Performance Measures for Public Libraries was distributed and rapidly became one of the most widely discussed studies in public librarianship. Its emphasis on "Accountability in terms of performance measures" offered a logical and refreshing approach to data collection and interpretation. Utilizing basic principles of research, especially the advantages of measurement through sampling techniques, criteria were developed to help assess the effectiveness of library service. In 1976, a Performance Measures Workbook followed which further extended the impact of this revolutionary method.

Another more recent attempt at evaluation was found in A Planning Process for Public Libraries published at the turn of the decade in 1980. Aimed at providing a more formalized, methodical and individualized approach to public library evaluation and development, the "Process" demonstrated yet another major change in the direction of planning and measuring public library activities. Although a thorough and formidable undertaking for any library, regardless of size, it has already undergone wide and extensive testing in various areas of the country and shows both promise and value for the future.

Output Measures for Public Libraries, issued two years later, was a logical and important follow-up to the Planning Process and described twelve distinct areas of public library activity which were in need of special evaluation. In comparison with so-called input measures which relate to the support a library receives from its community, output measures utilize statistics to identify what a library offers its community. Through comparisons of such items as circulation, library visits, and reference transactions to the size of the population served, and the determination of the percentage of works by author, title or subject found by library users (otherwise known as "fill rate"), public libraries now have a much more accurate way of measuring the effectiveness and success of their services and collections at the local level.

The latest work to be produced in this series, entitled Cost Finding for Public Libraries, was published in 1985. It provides methodology through which to develop a clear picture of the actual costs of the various services a

public library offers its users. This decision making tool for library managers utilizes statistical data in yet another way by analyzing the direct and indirect costs of a library's operation. It adds a new dimension to the significance of output measures by identifying their fiscal implications.

When it comes to the actual collection, tabulation, analysis and documentation of public library statistics throughout the country, the primary task is assumed by the Federal Government. The United States Center for Statistics, formerly known as the National Center for Education Statistics, is responsible for overall public library data and operates under the direction of the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Educational Research and Improvement of the Department of Education of the United States, located in Washington. The Center is chartered by federal law to collect, collate and, from time to time, report full and complete statistics on the conditions of education in the United States; and conduct and publish reports on specialized analyses of the meaning and significance of such statistics. All types of libraries fall under the purview of the Center for Statistics because they are an integral part of our system of education both formally and informally.

During the past 25 years, the Center has conducted six surveys of public libraries involving the collection of data on a national basis and resulting in the publication of statistics on services, collections, personnel and budgets. The most recent comprehensive report, issued by the Center in 1985, was based on the public library data collected in 1982. Using the sampling method of surveying, the Center determined that there were 8,600 central libraries and 6,900 branch libraries in the United States. In addition, there were almost 50,000 scheduled bookmobile stops and over 5,000 other outlets through which public library service was provided. With regard to the use of public libraries, it is estimated that over 800 million visits are made each year, resulting in a total circulation of 1.1 billion items. The number of visits is especially significant in that it is double the number recorded in the previous survey just four years earlier in 1978. In identifying the hours of access that users have to their libraries, the survey found that half were open six days per week, while 7 percent offered services every day, including Sundays. Almost one-third of the libraries provided public access at least 50 hours each week.

On the fiscal side, in 1982, public libraries overall registered receipts of \$2.3 billion (U.S.) and expenses of \$2.2 billion (U.S.). Revenues were derived from local sources (80 percent), state sources (7 percent), federal sources (4 percent) and other miscellaneous sources (9 percent). Expenditures included salaries and wages (54 percent), materials (15 percent), maintenance and operating (10 percent), equipment, computer and capital projects (8 percent) and other items (13 percent). The combined book stock of all public libraries in the United States totaled almost 500 million volumes and included over 300 million titles. The 1982 survey also showed that there were 9.5 million volumes of bound periodicals and 1 million magazine subscriptions. In the area of personnel, United States public libraries had a total of 92,000 staff members with 41 percent classified as professionals, 53 percent technical and clerical and 6 percent maintenance and custodial.

The 1982 survey was the first to try to identify the extent to which computers were being used in U.S. public libraries. Although the statistics gathered are still inconclusive, primarily because of the rapid changes occurring in the acquisition of automation hardware and software by all types of libraries, the survey did determine that computers were not only being utilized for internal control, but also, in some libraries, were being made available for public use, as well.

The Center cooperates with other national organizations such as the American Library Association to develop new and more effective ways of collecting, analyzing and disseminating statistics about public and other types of libraries. More detailed information about the Center and the public library data it has collected can be obtained by contacting the Center for Statistics, Office of Educational Research and Improvement, United States Department of Education, 555 New Jersey Avenue, Washington, D.C., U.S.A., 20208.

Tangential to the involvement of national library organizations and the Federal Government is the part played by state and regional library groups. These governmental units tabulate and publish their own data relating to the activities of the public libraries which they serve. The collection of statistics through an annual report filed by local libraries provides each state and region with use, collection, staff and fiscal information in its geographical area of responsibility. This data is crucial to the development of standards,

deployment of staff consultants, justification of more grants-in-aid funding and publication of appropriate statistical tables and charts.

In an attempt to even further improve the availability of public library statistics, the Federal Government, the state library agencies and our largest national library organization have joined together in a new project entitled "The Cooperative System for Public Library Data Collection". With funding provided by the United States and research and direction by the Office for Research of the American Library Association, six states have launched a program through which to create a common data gathering system. The key undertaking is the standardization of the basic statistics collected by the states, thereby developing a model which other states can adopt in the future. The participants in this pilot project are in the process of assembling public library data for fiscal year 1986 and will report on the results of their findings in 1987. When completed, this program will provide a new method for the assembling and disseminating of national statistics in a more uniform and timely manner and will allow for a variety of configurations on both a state and regional basis.

It is, however, clearly evident that public library statistics exercise their most vital and critical impact on the local level. With a substantial amount of public library support emanating from community sources, it is easy to understand why library trustees and other officials require statistical reports as frequently as monthly. By reviewing in detail the use of library services as often as is practical, board and staff members alike can simultaneously stay up to date on changes in use and track whatever trends and patterns may be developing.

As in various other countries, public library statistics are utilized in the United States in many different ways. First and foremost, they are essential to the planning and evaluation of space, personnel, materials and resources, access, and funding. More generically, they can be of help in fostering cooperative collection development within groups of libraries and may lead to the development of standards within certain defined areas. They are utilized by staffs for self-evaluation, managers for strategic planning, government and community officials for support guidance, and the users themselves for better awareness of library services.

In looking to the future, it is important to note that a variety of organizations and agencies are joining forces and planning cooperatively to

improve collection techniques, data analyses and methods of dissemination, as well as the scope and focus of the information available. In responding to professional guidelines, in addition to public need, federal and state governments, in partnership with library organizations, will be spending much of their effort on broadening the public library services to be surveyed and insuring accurate and timely access to the data through both online and print sources.

The use of public library statistics has been evolving from a purely analytical function to a qualitative and evaluative one. The various measurements of materials and use are being paired with data from other types of quantifiable library operations to provide productivity as well as activity analyses and comparisons. More attention is being paid to such concerns as the per unit cost of public library services and the grand total of all library uses (i.e. summation of circulation of all materials, plus number of information questions, plus program attendance, plus library visits). The source of public library support is receiving greater scrutiny by local funding bodies, as is the percent of local tax dollars being spent on public library services. What is clear is that data on United States public libraries are becoming ever more abundant and have become indispensable to both librarians and federal, state and local officials alike. The proliferation and further massaging of such data can, in the long term, only help libraries improve their services and enhance their support.

Clearly, the most critical advance made in the last decade has been the computerization of circulation and bibliographic controls. This has not only revolutionized the collection of important data but also made them more accurate, timely and versatile. In addition, this modernization of techniques has encouraged public libraries to discover and develop new permutations in the analysis of the statistics being tabulated. Those large public libraries fortunate enough to have their own computer programmers will be able to implement their formulas more quickly than those which depend upon a central vendor for their software. In the case of the latter, economies of scale require that enough libraries desire certain software enhancements and changes before a vendor will respond. Sometimes, it's the vendor who initiates new data combinations and offers greater flexibility and more options to the customer.

Unlike the 19th Century and the first half of the 20th Century, which reflect little change in the traditional methods of collecting and using statistics, the evolutionary process of the last few decades bodes well for what is to come in the future development of statistical measurement and evaluation techniques for public libraries. Even greater refinements are sure to follow to the point where every quantifiable activity will eventually be translated into some analytical format and will be capable of being studied in a variety of configurations. When coupled with the vast demographical information obtained from United States census materials, public library statistics will take on new meaning in the years ahead. All of this notwithstanding, the successful and effective use of this new spectrum of data will be dependent on our ability to understand its role and ramifications, and to interpolate it into usable information for policy and decision making in determining future courses of action. We have crossed into yet another era of sophistication in the public library statistical arena, one which is leading us into a dynamic, challenging and exciting new vista of data collection and analysis.



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The Dynamics of Growing Public Libraries in Taiwan Area

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The Dynamics of Growing Public Libraries in Taiwan Area

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ABSTRACT

This paper attempts to report the status of public libraries in Taiwan area with brief geographical and demographic descriptions of this area. A brief history of public library development and its current status are presented with statistics to illustrate the impacts of national development policy, education, and economic development upon the growth of public libraries in Taiwan area.

INTRODUCTION

Before presenting the status of public libraries in Taiwan area, we would like to provide you with some basic information about this area which covers the island of Taiwan and two off-shore islands, Kinmen and Matsu, with a total land area of 13,968.8 square miles. Taiwan island is located at the southeastern coast of the China mainland, separated by the Taiwan Straits about 200 km from Fukien province. The southern tip of the island is 350 km north of the Philippines, and the northern tip is 1,000 km southwest of Japan.

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Chinese settled in Taiwan ages ago but mass migration was led by Cheng Chen-kung in 1661. Taiwan became part of China since 1886. The island was occupied by Japanese since 1895 for fifty years until it was returned to Chinese government in 1945. After the seat of the ROC moved to Taiwan in 1949, there are now two special municipalities (Kaohsiung and Taipei), sixteen counties, five cities, 399 towns, and villages. The current population of this area has reached 19 million with an average of 520 persons per square meter. A high density of population is indeed evident.

The population, however, is comparatively young because quarter of the population is still in school. It also indicates an educated population because less than nine percent of the population is illiterate since the advent of the nine-year compulsory education initiated in 1968. This paper will explore the types, functions, and development of public libraries in such a conducive environment.

Types of Public Libraries in Taiwan Area

Discussed here are libraries for public use which include national libraries, provincial and municipal libraries, county and city libraries, town and village libraries, libraries of the cultural centers and libraries of social educational institutions. These libraries, subordinate to governmental organizations, are publicly funded. There are also privately-funded libraries for public use, some of them have collections of subject specializations and some of general interest.

Era of 1901-1977

Public libraries began in 1901 with the establishment of Taiwan Collection (台湾文库 -Taiwan Wen Ku) funded by private sources. In 1914, it was merged by Taiwan Provincial Government and became the first government-supported public library. Since the announcement of Rules and Regulations of Private and Public Libraries by Taiwan Provincial Government in 1923, public libraries mushroomed in a speedy manner. The development of public libraries in Taiwan was also greatly enhanced by the establishment of Taiwan Library Association in 1927.

In accordance with 1943 statistics, there were ninety-four public libraries, of which ninety were supported by government and four by private sector⁴. They were quite a few public libraries, but the collections were mostly in Japanese and comparatively very small. Circulation was poor.

Toward the end of Second World War, Taiwan was greatly damaged by bombing. Most of the libraries suffered great loss. After the war when Taiwan was recovered by China, libraries did not function at all because of financial constraints and the impractical nature of the Japanese collection. Libraries were reinstated toward the end of the 40s when the government structure was redefined. It was at this time that public libraries' organization and regulations were gradually formulated. County and City Library Organizational Regulations announced by Taiwan Provincial Government

in 1951 required the establishment of libraries in counties and cities. According to the statistics of 1952, there were three provincial libraries, fourteen county and city libraries, with a total collection of 437,241 volumes¹. Almost all the counties and cities had public library services by that time.

The revision of the above mentioned regulations in 1968 enabled the libraries to have more librarians. Since the announcement of Village and Town Libraries Organizational Regulations in 1969, the legal status of village and town libraries was clearly founded and thus promoted the establishment of village and town libraries.

The 1976 statistics indicated that there were fifty-four public libraries in Taiwan. The collection raised from 1,066,207 volumes in 1968⁵ to 1,864,181 volumes in 1976,¹ an increase of 75% was an encouragement.

In 1977, Cultural Construction Project, stipulated by national development policy, was announced as one of the Twelve National Development Projects; public libraries, being an integral part of the project, have thus stepped into a new era of growth.

Cultural Construction and Public Libraries

With the purpose of enriching people's knowledge and upgrading their livelihood, the Cultural Construction Project has plans to establish a cultural center in each of the cities and counties within five years of 1977. Outlines of Establishing County and City Cultural Center Plans announced by the Executive Yuan specified the following:

- 1) Relocation of the National Central Library;
- 2) Establishment of a cultural center with emphasis on library in each of the counties and cities in the province of Taiwan;
- 3) Establishment of a library in each of the administrative district in Taipei;
- 4) Establishment of Chiang Kai-shek Cultural Center in Kaohsiung with establishment of a branch library of each of the administrative district.

From 1978 up to now, the most prominent development of libraries rested at the building of new quarters of libraries. Up to 1986, there are eighteen cultural centers all over counties and cities with a total footage of 15,583 square miles at a cost of US\$102 million.

Kaohsiung Chiang Kai-shek Cultural Center, opened to the public in April 1981, the earliest library of a cultural center, has a collection of 106,868 volumes. In Kaohsiung and Taipei, these two special municipalities, among twenty-seven administrative districts, there are only three districts which do not yet have branch libraries. New libraries are actually either under construction or being planned for construction.

National Central Library started construction in 1982 and was completed in 1985 with plans to serve the public commencing September 1, 1986.

In addition to the hardware construction, all libraries have made significant improvements in collection and funding.

In the past three summers, professional assistance has been given to cultural center libraries in that four library schools have been sending their

students to aid technical services under the direction of their faculty members. Cultural Center Handbook is also being prepared by the National Central Library in order to provide administrative guidelines. In addition, Ministry of Education and Provincial Library in Taichung also held seminars for the purpose of giving short term cultural center professional training.

Based on a draft of the statistics prepared by the Reader Services Division of the National Central Library, the current status of public library in Taiwan area can be summarized as follows:

In this area there are now 307 public libraries with a average of a library per 45.80 square miles. In comparison with 1986 with 1952, the number of public libraries have grown from 17 to 307, an increase of 1706%.

CONCLUSION

Public libraries, being instrumental to the upgrading of citizens' intellectual level, to the popularization of education, to the wholesome development of the society, and to meeting needs of all public and private sectors, have won nationwide attention and government support.

In the above description, we can see an impressive account of development in public libraries:

1. The number of public libraries has grown from 17 in 1952 to 307 in 1986, a 1706% increase;
2. The collection raised from 1, 066,207 volumes in 1968 to 1,864,181, an increase of 75%.

provincial and national libraries have been improved.

(3) The Economic and Social Prosperity of the Country

Taiwan area's economic take-off began in the mid 60s. Since then, the per capital income has reached US\$3,142 in 1985 in comparison with US\$221 in 1966. With economic bloom, private sectors, being the wealthier ones in the country, have established more libraries for public use. Since 1970, there have been an increase of seventy-one public libraries funded by private resources, an increase of 1100% religious bodies and electronic manufacturing companies have made significant contributions to the field because they have funded thirty-five public libraries and AV libraries for public use. As we are realize, private funding has less limitations; as a result, libraries with private resources, are enabled to collect more expensive materials, e.g. AV materials in addition to the regular collections of printed materials.

4) Professional Orgazination

The Library Association of China was re-established in 1953. Its revival has helped the drafting of public library standards, rules, and regulations putting to public libraries which indeed assist professional training and upgrading of library qualities.

5) Extension of Compulsory Education and Increasing Consciousness of the importance of Education

As a result of the above two figures, we can draw a conclusion that funding has also been increased many folds even though the employment allowance for professional libraries has not been significantly made to cope with the growing collections and mushrooming libraries.

We are pleased to conclude with the following observations that the development of public library has been enhanced by the rules and regulations, government policy support, economic and social prosperity, professional organization, extension of compulsory education, and coordinated efforts in library automation.

1) Rules and Regulations

These rules and regulations set up by the government have played important roles to the development of public libraries. The formulation and revision of County and City Libraries Regulations have directly increased the number of village and town libraries and the size of their staff. In turn, these regulations have great impacts upon the quality of public services.

2) Government Policy Support

Various support given by government policy have greatly enhanced the growth of both the hardware and software of libraries. Such type of policy support has been evidenced by the Cultural Construction Project. Its impacts upon libraries have been proven by the fact that the number of libraries has been increased and

Compulsory education was expanded to nine years since 1968. A highly educated population put more demands upon libraries.

6) Coordinated Efforts of Library Automation

Library automation project led by the Library Association and National Central Library has enjoyed its fruits. Under the coordinated efforts and the leadership of NCL, public libraries system seems to be benefitted from the standards adopted by NCL and its experiences.

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